

# METAL FORCES

No. 10

£1.00



Pic. Geoffrey Thomas

ARMORED SAINT  
FRANK DIMINO  
TYSONDOG  
TOKYO BLADE  
POLL RESULTS





# EDITORIAL

METALLICA rules! Without a doubt the San Franciscan Power Metallists enhanced their position of THE No. 1 pure metal band with overwhelming victories in 7 of the 9 categories the band contested in the second METAL FORCES Annual Readers Poll- (Full results are on pages 24 and 25). In fact metal of the speed variety scored approx. 75% of the votes in most categories and it looks as though METALLICA are in for some fairly strong competition in the next poll. EXODUS for instance received heavy voting in the demo section for a tape of their forthcoming debut album "Lesson In Violence" (now re-titled "Bonded By Blood") that found its way into the tape trading circles and looks set to be huge now the vinyl is finally released.

First person out of our poll voters hat to win themselves a copy of IRON MAIDEN's mega-rare debut single "Soundhouse Tapes" was P.Scott from Lenexa, Kansas. Also runners-up who can expect some freebies in the form of an album or T.Shirt are: J.Lynn (San Diego, CA), R.Gill(Wokingham, Berks), G.Cape (Caerleon, Gwent), I. Wells (Gravesend, Kent), A. Penzin (Cutania, Italy), D.Fuller (Catford, London), G.Papa (Woodhaven, NY), S. Coombs (Ongar, Essex) and K. Braun (Torrance,CA). Congratulations you can expect your prizes soon, and thanks to everyone who voted. The poll results will reflect the contents of coming issues.

METAL FORCES No. 11 will be available on May 27th. So see you all then.

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## PLAYLISTS

### BERNARD DOE

1. Executioners Song-RAZOR (Viper LP)
2. Long Live The Loud-EXCITER (MFN LP)
3. Bonded By Blood-EXODUS (MFN LP)
4. Hell Awaits-SLAYER (Metal Blade LP)
5. Smash Your Skulls With Power-  
DESTRUCTOR (US Demo)

### DAVE CONSTABLE

1. DEUCE (US Demo)
2. Speedway-WARHEAD(Mausoleum LP)
3. Scratch And Bite-TREAT(Mercury LP)
4. Killing Is My Business-MEGADETH(MFN LP)
5. SINFUL (US Demo)

### STEVE HAMMONDS

1. Bonded By Blood - EXODUS(MFN LP)
2. Killing Is My Business-MEGADETH(MFN LP)
3. Night Time - KILLING JOKE (EG LP)
4. Thunder In The East-LOUDNESS (MFN LP)
5. Steel The Light-Q5 (MFN LP)

### KELV HELLRAZER

1. Save Me Tonight-WHITE SISTER (US Demo)
2. She's A Tease - ACTRESS (US Demo)
3. Heartful Of Soul-JOSHUA (US Demo)
4. Razors Edge-POISON(US Demo)
5. TERRISS (US Demo)

### DAVE REYNOLDS

1. Wrecking Crew-DEUCE (US Demo track)
2. Witchcraft-CANDLEMASS (Swedish Demo)
3. LIVING DEATH-Demo(3track B-side of  
forthcoming 12" EP)
4. ANTICHRIST (UK Demo)
5. Burning At The Speed Of Light-THRASHER  
(MFN LP)

## ADVERTISING AND DISTRIBUTION

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The World £2.00). Issues No. 1 and No. 3  
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**METAL  
FORCES**



● ANGELWITCH are currently recording their new album. Entitled "Screemin' An' Bleedin'" the album is due for release in early June.

● Former TOKYO BLADE vocalist Alan Marsh is currently putting together a new band. Musically the band will be more in the hard rock vein and similar to early BLADE material.

So far Marsh has recruited Andrew Dunne (guitar), Bob Richards (drums) and an as yet un-named second guitarist, but is still on the look-out for a bass and keyboard player. Interested musicians should apply to Rod, c/o Rod Records, 116 Fisherton St., Salisbury, Wilts., ENGLAND.

● A new rock radio station has just been launched in the London area. "Renegade 214" broadcasts on 214 metres (1404 KHZ) for up to eighteen hours from 9.00am Saturdays and Sundays.

● BLACK ROSE release a 12" single on Neat Records during April featuring four-tracks - "Rock Me Hard", "Need A Lot Of Lovin'", "Nightmare" and "Breakaway".

● EXCITER, who have recently been supporting ACCEPT in Europe, release their third album "Long Live The Loud" on Music For Nations on 17th May.

The Canadian Trio will also have a track "Feel The Knife" (not on the album) released as a 12" single and containing two live tracks on the 'B' side.

● EXODUS have just had their debut album (reviewed in MF9 and now re-titled "Bonded By Blood") released by Music For Nations.

● WHITE SISTER's new keyboard player is Donnie Gougeon previously with JOSHUA. He played on the JOSHUA LP "The Hand Is Quicker Than The Eye". The band has completed its part for the film "April Your No Fool" in which they appear for three and a half minutes. The video is now out in the US. WHITE SISTER now has five major US labels chasing after them and all will be revealed in the next issue of MF. Speaking of JOSHUA the man's new LP "Rocking The World" should be released any time now.



CARNIVORE

● New York metal warriors CARNIVORE (featured in MF6) have a new mailing address:- The Nuclear Warriors, 1652 East 33rd Street, Brooklyn, New York 11234, USA.

The band are currently negotiating with three independent record labels and hope to have an album out by mid-summer.

● Neat Records have just launched "Lead Weight" a free publication that gives news and info on all the labels acts. Issue No. 1 is now out and can be obtained by sending a large SAE to "Lead-weight", Neat Records & Music, 71 High Street East, Wallsend, Tyne & Wear, NE28 7RJ, ENGLAND.



● Italian metallist's HALLOWEEN have a new drummer - John Car whose picture above (or should that be Wayne Car - Ed).

● TRANCE have just released their third album "Victory" on Rockport Records.

● "Metal Madness" is the name of a new compilation album just released by New Renaissance Records and features tracks from AVALON, TRACER, MAX, SHOK, PARIS, SIXTY NINE, PROPHET, SCARLET ANGEL, ASSASSIN, VICE, HIGH RISK and L.A.'s HELLION.

Meanwhile New Renaissance Records are currently looking for bands for several more compilation albums. They will be "Metal Madness Vol. 2", "Lady Killers" (featuring acts with girl members), "Metal Magick" (featuring groups who are interested in the occult) and two as yet un-named albums featuring "speed metal" and "glam bands". Interested acts should send a tape and photo to:- New Renaissance Records, P.O.Box 11372, Burbank, CA 91501, USA.

● OSTROGOTH, have just been voted second after KILLER for the most popular Belgian HM band, are at the moment recording their third album "Don't Point Your Finger" for Mausoleum Records under the supervision of producer Alex Gietz at Brussels Shiva Studios.

● South London's DEATH WISH who are described as Ultra-heavy, but technical are searching for a new vocalist with a DEATH image and a powerful, evil voice. Interested musicians should phone Dave on (0732)864034.



• **HELLS BELLES**, London Rogue metal merchants featured in MF7, have just finished recording their debut album at the Woodbine Studios, Leamington Spa. The album is expected to be released worldwide in May and the band will be doing a headline tour of the States to coincide with its release. For more info on the band write to:-HELLS BELLES c/o Lateral Management International, 198 Hammersmith Grove, London W6 7HG, ENGLAND.

• **VENOM** who have just had their latest album "Possessed" released by Neat Records will have their second album "Black Metal" released as a picture disc. Also on Neat.

• Former **RIOT** guitarist Mark Reale has formed a new band under the monicker of **NARITA** (the title of **RIOT**'s 2nd album) and includes three members from the now defunct **SLAYER** - the Texas version.

• **DESOLATION ANGELS** have a new drummer, Dave Maile, who was previously with **INTERNATIONAL HEROES**.



• **MANILLA ROAD** (guitarist Mark Shelton pictured above) have their fourth album entitled "Open The Gates" released worldwide by the French based **Black Dragon Records** at the end of April. The album has a total playing time of 54 minutes.

• Following their recent Dutch tour, Newcastle's **AVENGER** have parted company with guitarist Les Cheetham. His replacement is American axeman Greig Reiter from Philadelphia. Some may remember Reiter's "My Axe Is Packed" advertisement in **Kerrang!** (Issue 80. The one with Manowar's Eric Adams showing off his new glove puppet) wanting a band to work with. Ironical as it may seem, a Neat Records ad for **AVENGER**'s "Blood Sports" album was printed on the facing page!

The band are currently working on their second album "The Killer Elite".

• Drummer Glenn Evans has left the New York based **T.T. QUICK** and is currently looking for a new metal band. Glenn can be contacted at:-P.O.Box 164, Osbornville, NJ 08723, USA. Tel: 201 246 0477.

## NEWSNEWSNEWSNEWSNEWSNEWSNEWS

# FANZINE CORNER

Anyone who wishes to publicize their HM magazine/fanzine in **METAL FORCES** should send a sample copy along with details of obtaining the publication (please keep it short!) to: **METAL FORCES**, 17 Livingstone Link Chells, Stevenage, Herts., SG2 0EP, ENGLAND. **IMPORTANT:** We cannot publicize magazines without first seeing a sample copy. This avoids printing letters from people with imaginary fanzines who are hoping to cash in on albums, demo tapes and other such freebies. So be warned!!!

Belgian Heavy Metal magazine **TOTAL BLUR** with Queensryche(special), Virgin Steele, Knowwhite, Evil, Lizzy Borden, Cirith Ungol, Black Widow, Crossfire, Acid, Cyclone, Hellcise, Mercyful Fate (poster King Diamond). This can be ordered by sending \$2.00 to **TOTAL BLUR**, Galgenbergsstraat 5, 3214 Holsbeek, BELGIUM.

**GUSHING BLOOD** is the name of a new fanzine from the S.F. Bay Area. Issue No. 1 features interviews with Exodus, Medieval, Possessed, and more. For a copy send \$1.50(US) or \$2.50 (overseas) to: **GUSHING BLOOD** c/o Joel Wing, 52 Greenview Ln., El Sobrante, CA, 94803, USA.

**100% THRASH** - England's first Hardcore Death mag! Formerly known as **VIOLENCE AND FORCE**, issue 1 features Destruction, Venom, Agent Steel, Iron Angel, Megadeth, Possessed, Hallows Eve, Have Mercy and more. Send \$1.00(US), 40p (UK), 80p (elsewhere) to: Bill Steer, Thornwood, Tower Rd North, Heswall, Wirral, Merseyside, L60 6RS, ENGLAND.

**HEAVY HEROES** issues 1 and 2 are now available. Issue 1 features Armored Saint, Saxon, Dio and Wild Dogs. Issue 2 features Mercyful Fate, Exciter and Battleaxe interviews as well as Liege Lord, Siren, Mesomorph, Zoetrope, Trauma and Chastaine features. Send \$1.50(US) or \$2.00 (UK and Europe) to: Adam Tepedalen, P.O.Box 296, Lakeside, OR, 97449, USA. Coming soon issue 3 with Overkill, Warlord, Sound Barrier, Jesters of Destiny and more.

**HEAVY METAL ONSLAUGHT** - Issue 3 due out soon. Features Mercyful Fate, Exodus, Laaz Rockit, Voi Vod, Exciter, Metal Church, Slayer, Savage Grace, Metallica, Venom and much, much, more. To Order please send \$2.00 (US) or \$3.00 (Elsewhere). Make cheques and money orders payable to John Fettes and send to: **HEAVY METAL ONSLAUGHT** c/o John Fettes, 65 28th Ave, 5, San Mateo, CA 94403, USA.

**SLEDGEHAMMER PRESS**. Power Metal Fanzine dedicated to the wrath and wage of Metal, Sex and Death! This is the only metal rag you can masterbate to! All Black/Death metal bands please contact me. (All others- **FUCK OFF!!!**) \$1.50 (US) or \$2.00 (overseas) - cheques/money orders payable to Bob Chasseur. **SLEDGEHAMMER PRESS**, 1777 Roberts Street, Muskegon, Michigan 49442, USA.

**BLACKTHORN**. Thrash, Death and Power metal mag from Denmark. Issue no. 1 is out now! The mag is written in English, printed on glossy paper and features a black and gold cover. All is very prof. done. This issue has Destruction, Have Mercy, Artillery, Tormentor and Nasty Savage interviews, as well as reviews of Death, No Class, Vicious Barreka, Iron Angel etc. Send \$2.00 (incl P&P) to Henk Leviathan, Sejrs Alle 49, 8240 Risskov, DENMARK.

**METALLICUS** No. 3 out soon with Dio, Queensryche interview, Kiss, Deep Purple and more. \$1.50(US) or \$2.50 (elsewhere). Also in desperate need of bands for up-and-coming section. Send B&W pic, bio and demo to: **METALLICUS** c/o Joseph Lopez Jr., 3020 N.40th Dr., Phx., Az. 85019, USA. Phone (602) 272-1174.

Issue No. 3 of **GRINDER** is still available for \$1.25(US) or \$2.25 (Overseas). It has interviews with Slayer, Exodus, Metal Church, Sin, Savatage and much much more. Issue No. 4 of **GRINDER** will be out soon and it's the biggest and heaviest issue yet. There are interviews with Mercyful Fate, Exciter, Motörhead, Overkill, Possessed, Voi Vod, Jag Panzer, Thrust, Deuce and who knows what else. **NOTE:** Their is a price increase for issue No. 4 and that's due to us expanding the mag. No. 4 will be full sized and over 40 pages worth of thrashing new interviews etc. It costs \$1.50 plus 75c postage and handling in the US. Overseas it will cost \$3.00. Cheques and money orders payable to Chris Nord. **GRINDER** c/o Chris Nord, 90 Chapmans Ave., Warwick, R.I. 02886, USA.

**ROCK HARD**, Germany's leading underground magazine is looking for new bands coming from all over the world, power & hardcore metal preferred! **ROCK HARD** is professionally done with 40 pages and can be ordered for DM5(each) or DM15(subscription - 3 mags). Overseas pay \$2.00 or \$6.00 (for 3). Airmail guaranteed! **BUY OR DIE!** **ROCK HARD**, Holger Stratmann, Hildesheimer Str. 20, 4600 Dortmund 1, WEST GERMANY.



# ANTHRAX

## ANARCHY IN THE USA

BERNARD DOE Talks To The New York Hellraisers

European headbangers have heard very little of ANTHRAX since the release of their superb debut "Fistful Of Metal" album early last year. Following a successful US tour with RAVEN the band were due to come over to Europe for gigs and also record their second album in England (see MF4). But ANTHRAX hit problems in the vocal department so those plans never materialized.

Thankfully the problems are now over and the band have recently released a new EP entitled "Armed And Dangerous" on Megaforce Records that is nothing short of brilliant. The 'A' side contains two new numbers, the title track and "Raise Hell", and prove what a talent new vocalist Joey BellaDonna is. On the



JOEY BELLADONNA

'B' side there are three numbers, an excellent version of the SEX PISTOLS classic "God Save The Queen" and breitbartaking, live in the studio, versions of "Metal Thrashing Mad" and "Panic" from the first album.

I recently spoke to guitarists Scot Ian and Dan Spitz and began by asking them what happened to original vocalist Neil Turbin?

Dan: "Neil was great on the first album but he just couldn't cut it live with the RAVEN dates we did. There was also a lot of personal differences so we let him go.

"After Neil we got Matt Fallon but he was only in the band for approximately two weeks before we let him go too - again because of personal differences - and now we've got Joey BellaDonna who's been just great. He's got a better voice than Neil as well as a greater range. Joey sounds just like he does on record live. He's the Steve Perry of aggressive metal".

How did you get Joey?

Dan: "Through our producer Carl Canedy (drummer with THE RODS) who knew Joey was playing in a copy band from Canada. When we first heard him in the studio he just blew our heads apart and he's been a brother ever since."

Do you think Joey's arrival will affect your songwriting in any way? Dan: "No, because the music is written by the musicians and Joey will just make the music sound that much better."

Why did the band choose to record "God Save The Queen" for the EP? Dan: "Well everybody in the band has always liked the song but Neil never wanted to do it. So when Neil departed and Joey joined he also liked the song, so we recorded it."

So what's the metal scene like at the moment in New



DAN SPITZ



SCOTT IAN



York? Scott: "There isn't really much of a scene. There's a few bands like OVERKILL and ourselves but there's nothing really happening here."

"People outside New York get the impression that something is happening, but when it gets down to it there really isn't. Even at weekends there's only L'amours in New York City who may only have one good show a month. But usually they have crap there."

"At this point the Hardcore scene is happening more than the metal scene."

What do you think of all the satanical bands that are

currently so popular?

Scott: "My opinion is if a band is gonna start to do something like that then they should take it seriously and not just use it as a gimmick."

"FATE and VENOM take it seriously and get away with it but I mean every week you get all these new bands appearing from nowhere who are just trying to jump on this devil bandwagon and most of the time they're just trash."

At the time I spoke to Scott and Dan, ANTHRAX were just about to finish recording their new album. Entitled "Spreading The Disease" the album will contain nine tracks, "Armed And Dangerous",

"Raise Hell", "Gung-Ho", "Aftershock", "Madhouse", "Stand Or Fall", "The Enemy", "Medusa" and "The Gunslinger". It is expected to be released on June 1st on a major label.

Now those of you who have heard the new tracks on the EP may have thought that ANTHRAX have mellowed a little, not being so thrash orientated as the first album. But no way. Dan: "The album has some really fast songs and one track in particular is faster than anything we've done before".

Scott: "There's some material on "Spreading The Disease" that makes "Panic" sound like Marshal Crenshaw!"

So when can we expect ANTHRAX giging in Europe?

Scott: "We've recently signed with one of the three major booking agencies, DMA, who are busy setting up dates for us. There's a support slot with the SCORPIONS across the US plus a headline tour of the States beginning in June and then we're be coming to Europe at the end of August to play a bunch of festivals plus a full scale tour."

Well there can be no doubt that ANTHRAX are back stronger than ever before and with a front man as powerful as Joey Belladonna who can turn classic songs like "Panic" and "Metal Thrashing Mad" into megaclassics then 1985 could be the year of ANTHRAX. Spread the word.



## FANZINE CORNER

METALLIC ASSAULT No. 1 is now available. If you're into high speed death this is the mag for you. No. 1. contains articles on Nasty Savage, Voi Vod, Celtic Frost, Slayer, Razor, Overkill, Fate and much more. Send \$2.00 (US) or \$3.00 (overseas) money order payable to Glenn Saltier, 1668 Bloor St. East Apt 604, Mississauga, Ontario, L4X 1R9, CANADA.

MIDWEST MILITIA marvelous iss No. 3 now for sale!! Features Fates, Fates Warning, Bitches Sin, Agent Steel, Hellcats, Rail, Manimals and much more - including 20 demo reviews and over 80 bands addresses!! Issue 1 with Witchslayer, Virgin Steele, Accept, Breaker etc and issue 2 with Slayer, Megadeth, Exodus, Anthrax, Whiplash etc - both still available! Copies are \$2.00 each or \$3.00 overseas. SPECIAL OFFER: Order now and get free buttons of Whiplash and Dehumanizers, Free autographed poster of Bitches Sin and free stickers of various HM bands. Cheques payable to Phil Baker, P.O. Box 8532, Waukegan, IL 60079, USA.

METAL K.O.: The only French fanzine in Canada. Issue No. 8 is now out, featuring Laaz Rockit, Rapid Tears, Ruthless, Saints Anger, Mania, Proud and Q5. Interviews with Metallica, Celtic Frost and Vengeance. Show reports on Metallica, Armored Saint and W.A.S.P. and much more. Send \$2.00 to: METAL K.O. CP 237 Succ., Delorimier, Montreal, Quebec, H2H 2N6, CANADA.

BRONZZ issue 3 now available 50p(UK), £1.00(Europe), \$2.00 (elsewhere). Features Megadeth, Running Wild, Omen, Satan's Pharynx, Trojan, Hardware, reviews etc. From: BRONZZ, 313 Barry Road, Barry, S. Glam., CF6 7BJ, WALES. Nos. 1 & 2 sold out. Sorry!

BATTLEFIELD No. 3 out soon with Metallica, Martyr, Iron Angel, Avenger, Hixx, Living Death-boozing-poster and more. No. 2 with Celtic Frost, Destruction, Possessed, Megadeth, Stormwitch, Evil and more. Each copy costs \$2.00 (elsewhere) or £1.50 (Europe). Cash!! Send to: BATTLEFIELD C/O V. Rosset, Hochstenerstr 96, 4600 Dortmund 30, WEST GERMANY.

POUNDER No. 1 soon to be released!!! Will have interviews with M.Fate, Slayer, Neil Turbin(ex-Anthrax), Abattoir, also Savage Grace, Omen, Nasty Savage, Megadeth, Agent Steel, Have Mercy, Tyrant and a lot more!!! Second issue to follow soon after!!! Send \$1.25 in the US and \$1.50 overseas. To: Pounder c/o Jason Mantis, 117 Wither-spoon Rd, Baltimore MD 21212, USA. Bands for a sure feature send tape, pic., and bio to above address. No posers please. News and facts welcome.

The Belgian metal mag/fanzine WHIPLASH is looking for new bands. Send us a photo, bio, demo-tape, Article Guaranteed!!!! Whiplash 1: Culpit, Savage, Tyson Dog, Pandemonium, Aardschokdag and Heavy Sound Festival \$2.00/£1.00. Whiplash 2: Metallica, Manowar, Blind Fury, Abattoir, Motley Crue, Dio, Torch, Syron Vanes, Gloven Hoof, Queensryche, Deathslayer \$2.00/£1.00. For 3 issues \$5.00/£3.00. Whiplash, Tiense-Vest 8, 3000 Leuven, BELGIUM.

SUCK CITY - America's most abominogacious zine is eager to Gastonschickenstein's Head Pounding Syndrome with metal maniacs world wide. Features: Fates Warning, Highway Chile, Deep Purple, Monsignor and S.Death. If interested in issues, writing or appearing in SUCK CITY. Write to: Suck City P.O. Box 441183, Indianapolis, IN 46204, USA.

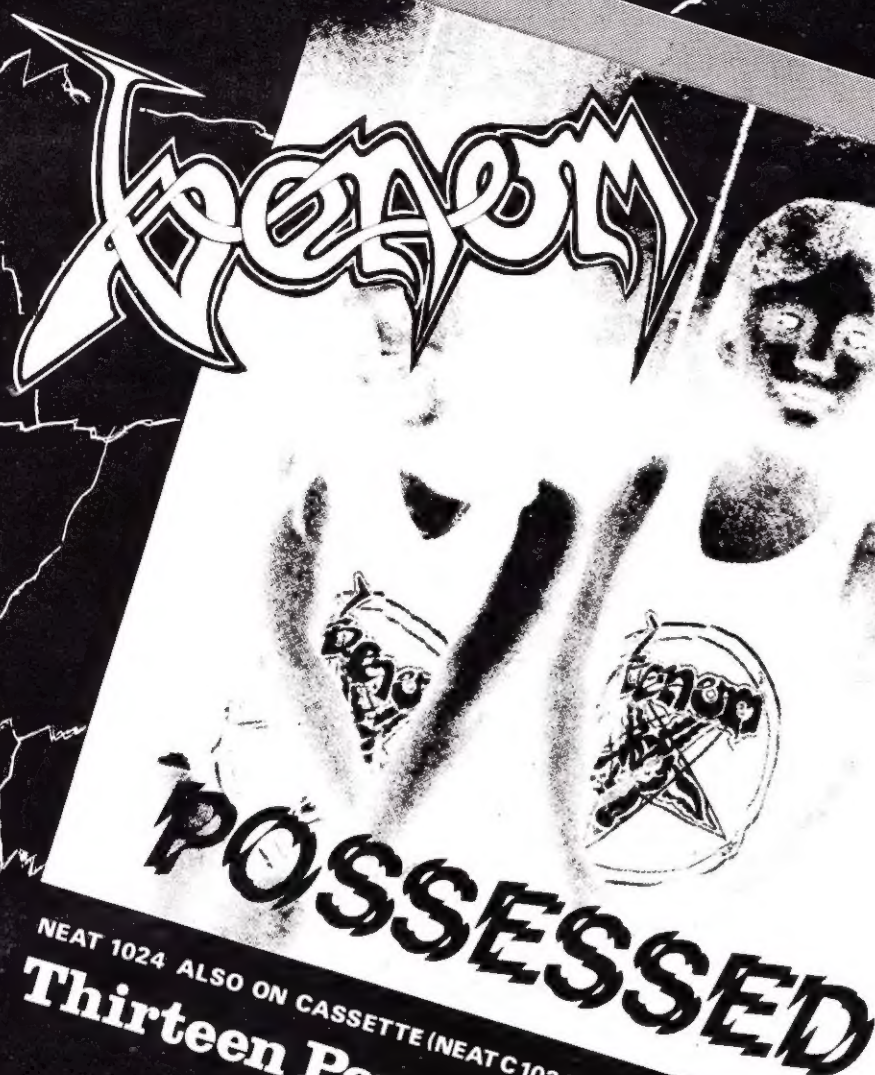
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HM Brazilian fanzine wants HM band all over the world. Please send us demo/records, pics, bio etc to: ROCK BRIGADE, c/o Eduardo S Bonadia, Caixa Postal 15094, Cambuci, SP/SP CEP 01538. We also need contributors in USA, UK and Europe and trade fanzines with others. HM labels send us your last records for review in our fanzine, with band info.



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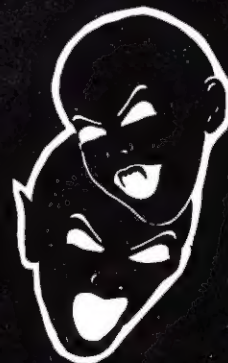
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(To The Ground)  
Harmony Dies  
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# TERRISS

## ANGEL DUST

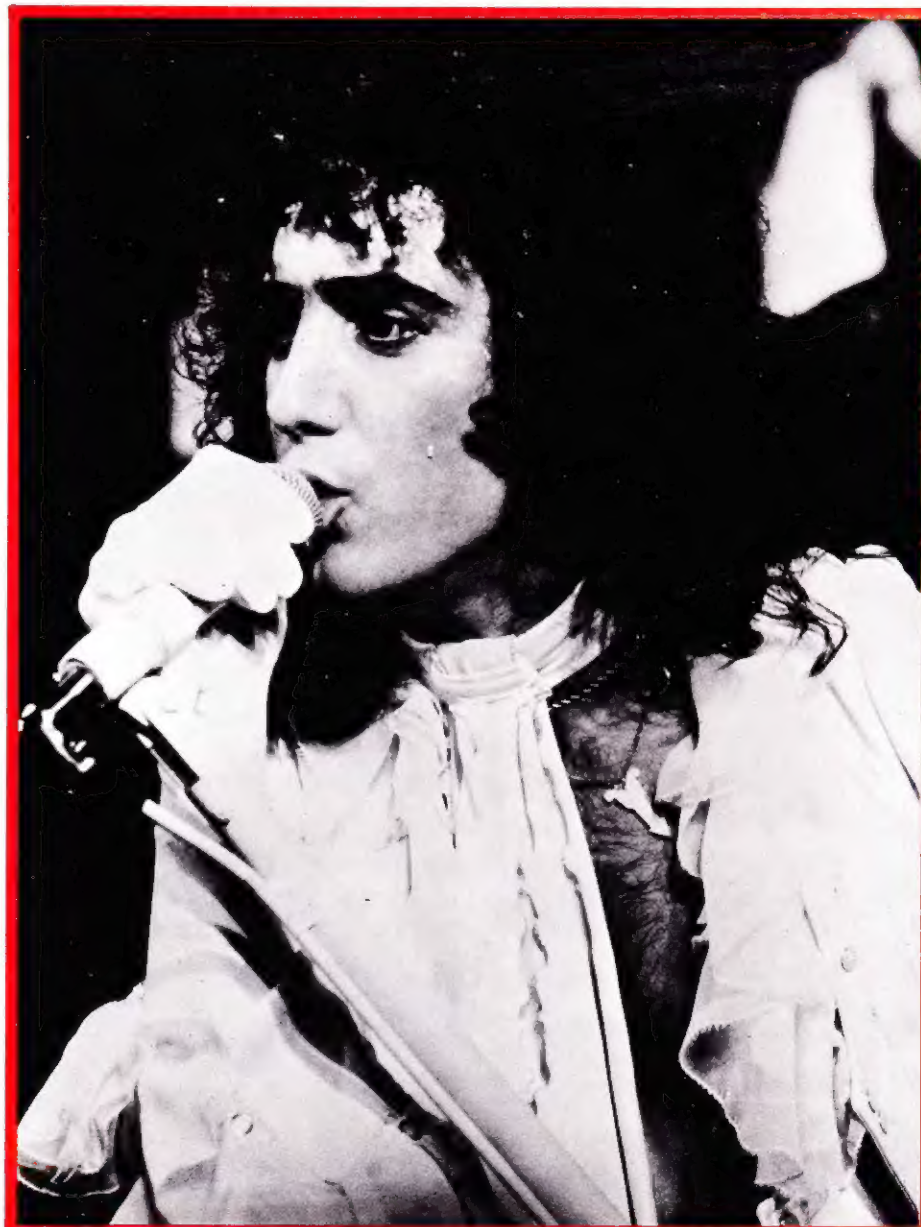
KELV HELLRAZER Speaks To Ex-ANGEL Vocalist  
FRANK DIMINO

As reported in the last issue of METAL FORCES, Frank Dimino the ex-ANGEL frontman has a new outfit. Now for those of you who have never heard of ANGEL, get reading your back issues of MF and see Dave Reynolds excellent mini-novel on the band, because I'm sure that I'm not gonna spend the next ten pages giving another history of the greatest band ever to walk this Earth. Frank's new band TERRISS consists of: Joe Holmes(guitar), Tim Cosmo(drums), Emil Lech(bass) and of course Frank handling the vocals. Now unlike keyboardist Greg's outfit GUIFRIA, Frank's new outfit are not trying to be a new ANGEL; but I think Frank is gonna encounter some problems as his vocal style was ANGEL even more than Greg Guifria's keyboards.

I recently spoke to Frank and asked him to give me an update on what had been happening to him since the demise of ANGEL? "Since I left ANGEL I've done a lot of studio things, I did the CYCLE V thing for the film "Flashdance"; I did the song "Seduce Me Tonight" for the "Flashdance" LP. I worked with Giorgio Moroder quite a bit and did background vocals on a SPARKS album and little things like that. I also wrote a song for the movie "Blow Out" which starred John Travolta. I then decided I wanted a band again, so I started from square one. I met the guitar player and we started writing a lot of stuff together. I wanted an audience again; I wanted to hear it with a band by itself. I didn't want to do it in Los Angeles, so I took the whole

thing up to Portland, the most remote part I could think of, and worked the band up there. We wrote songs together and then went back to LA. That's when I got Barry Brandt involved

in the project. He had some problems with management and stuff like that; well it was the old manager who was involved with ANGEL, Barry was involved with him still. The reason I left ANGEL was be-





cause we were in turmoil for about a year after Neil Bogart sold Casablanca Records and Polygram wouldn't let us go because we owed them one more LP. I'd been waiting a year so I couldn't wait around any more. So what happened was the bass player in TERRISS now, Emil, who was in the band NASTY HABITS with Barry - Paul Raymond was in that band for a while - called me up and said he'd been working with two guys outside NASTY HABITS and asked me to come down. Now just at that point I was about to start a solo career because all this band stuff was driving me crazy. So I went down to see them play and I was real impressed so I decided to stick with it. Up and to this point I'm real happy with the way things are going. It's one of the best bands I've been in; the musicians in the band are the best I've played with. The nice thing about it, is everybody works as a band together and not as individuals."

So how did the "Flash-dance" thing come about? "Well I started doing a lot of stuff with Georgio. I met him on the "Foxes" set. He would call me up to do a lot of sessions to help him out with a lot of different things - like the SPARKS thing, and the "Metropolis" project in which I sung 4 songs - but after the "Flash-dance" project, we kind of parted ways because he wanted to continue the CYCLE V project, and I already had my own ideas to get my own project together. But he didn't want me to do my own band, he just wanted me to do CYCLE V, although I saw him at the Grammys in which I was nominated for an award for "Flashdance". CYCLE V was just all session musicians so I was the only one nominated for the award."

What happened to THE ROUGHIANS? "THE ROUGHIANS thing was interesting. Paul Raymond and I always wanted to do something together but what happened was, either he or I was working with someone else at different times. However we still tried to keep this little thing together, which was fun because we had a lot of different musicians come in on it, and they were moving in and out all the time and we recorded a lot of stuff which has never been released. It was never released because we never had

the time to pursue it as a full-time project, as we were doing so many other things. We had Phil Chen on bass, John Brandt, who was previously with CHEAP TRICK, on guitars and on drums we had Paul Varley, previously with THE ARROWS (he'll kill me if I tell you he was in THE ARROWS). We also had another guitarist called Geoff Lubanski, he's from Portland. I found him playing in a club around here about 3 or 4 years ago. He came back to Portland after NASTY HABITS fell apart. A producer named Bob Rhodes was gonna do the production for my solo project, and now he's probably gonna do the production for TERRISS."

"What the new band is gonna be, is real heavy stuff. It's not banal monotone stuff!"

How did the project with THE ROUGHIANS doing songs for the film "In Custody Of Strangers" happen? "That was some people I met from doing a lot of studio work and I was asked if I had any material for a film soundtrack by a company called Filmways. We used 2-tracks - "Girls" and "In Your Eyes". Paul Raymond and Geoff Lubanski were both featured on these tracks."

Without having a keyboard player in the band you're obviously not going for the old ANGEL sound, so obviously you won't be wearing the old white stage gear? "Nahhh! I still have that gear somewhere but wearing it was a pain in the arse, although at the time it looked good, and was something we had put together from the beginning. Even to this day everyone thinks that Neil Bogart put the ANGEL/image together, but it was something we had from the beginning. When Gene Simmons from KISS came to see us in a small club we had basically the same dream, so nobody put ANGEL together, except for us."

Did you ever have any intention of calling your new band ANGEL? "No, Greg wanted to call his new band ANGEL so Punky, Barry and I had a meeting. You see when you go through 6 albums and 5 years together it's just too hard to see 4 guys up there that you don't even know, carrying on the name of ANGEL. If the original band was re-forming properly, that would be different. So when we had that meeting we had a long discussion about it and decided it was finished with. It was pretty tough, but we told

Greg to leave it, we couldn't see anybody else carrying on the name."

"For whatever problems ANGEL went through - record companies etc - the band were great, and with all the problems we had, no-one can take away all those good times. I wanna remember ANGEL for the good times."

Did you ever try to get Punky in this new band? "No, after ANGEL we all needed a rest from each other. I think at some point it would be nice for us to get back together again and I'm sure at some point we will, but in the last days of ANGEL things were getting bad. When Neil sold Casablanca, we had to do an album with Polygram. We didn't want to do an album with them because they were people we didn't know. We had a lot of other major companies offering us better things but they just wouldn't let us go."

"ANGEL did accomplish a lot of the things it set out to do, the way we looked etc. When we first started a lot of people thought we were gonna play like THE MOODY BLUES, but live we were real raw, heavy rock. That was the good thing about ANGEL, playing live. Once we were up there we would put all our problems behind us. We really used to live out the image everytime we went out there and that was the good thing I remember about it."

So, finally I gave Frank the task of summerizing just exactly what TERRISS is gonna do? "Really what's gonna happen is we're gonna go into the studio with a producer that I know Bob Rhodes, and it's basically tuning up the songs to sound right. I mean I could go out and get us a deal tomorrow. But I feel I'm representing something that I have a responsibility for. Actually I will probably be doing a gig at the Country Club soon, so the band will actually be playing live before we have put anything down on tape."

So it was at that point at which I left Frank. Another METAL FORCES exclusive (so what's new.. Ed.) I know that anything Frank does is gonna have big dollar signs springing up all over the place. By the time you read this article I should have the demos and I can tell you now the suspense and excitement is killing me."





# LIFE AFTER DEATH

DAVE REYNOLDS – One Step Beyond – Interviews  
REINER KELCH

"The Albums a bit raw isn't it?" Anonymous Record Executive.  
"Thrash! Death! Kill! Maim! Destroy! Speed! DEATH!" David Constable.  
"LIVING DEATH are capable of producing 1st Division high-powered metal" Bernard Doe (MF6).  
"Your T-Shirt Reynolds, Give! Now!" Igor, Shades. Feb 1985.

If all men play on ten. If pigs really can fly. If death-metal is just a figment of my psychotic imagination then LIVING DEATH, Germany's hi-speed metallic attack are really a disco group.

Seriously, LIVING DEATH, are with the possible exception of Sweden's mammoth BATHORY The definitive death-metal band on the European continent (excluding the UK). The outfits debut album "Vengeance Of Hell" is certainly one of those records that maim, kill, destroy all innocents (mainly Prince fans). Not a nice band of metal brothers to put the liggers in front of at all.

Surprisingly this five-piece maniac attack from the Ruhr town of Velbert don't cite any of the now mandatory METALLICA, EXCITER, ANTHRAX influences as bands who got 'em into the death metal strike zone. As lead guitarist Reiner Kelch told me: "I like JUDAS PRIEST, ACCEPT, LOUDNESS, UFO - none are fast bands and I definatly don't like punk!" Then why play the type of music LIVING DEATH are renowned for? "It's fun, we put a lot of effort into it. Frank Fricke,

the other lead guitarist and I are always competing against each other, we like doing that. Our first LP is very fast. It's very difficult to play quickly like that but we like doing it." Actually, between you'n'me I detect some UFO riffs in some of the tracks, see if you can spot them!

Formed in 1981 by Reiner, Frank and Reiner's brother Dieter Kelch (bass) along with vocalist Thorsten Bergmann they've put together Germany's first answer to "Kill 'em All" era METALLICA and it's not surprising that infamous German metal producer Axel Thubeauville should find his way into this twisted picture. "A friend of ours gave Axel a cassette of some of our songs. He didn't like the sound much but we recorded three tracks with him in 1983 which became our first demo. Axel then came to see us live and decided he wanted to do an album with us for his label Earthshaker."

The album's release was delayed due to a few changes in the Earthshaker marketing department (Earthshaker product now comes under the Mausoleum banner) but also the band didn't have a drummer! "The album was recorded with a friend who is the drummer with another group" says Reiner, "But now we have our own, Andreas Oberhoff who is an excellent drummer."

Too right! Those who've purchased LIVING DEATH's debut (obviously after the rave review in MF6) will know that the drumming



is fucking awful! This is the main reason why the album failed to make my Top 20 of 1984 (STEELER's debut didn't make it either due to the disappointing vocals of Peter Burtz) but having heard a tape of the forthcoming 12" EP ("Watch Out" plus 3 re-mixed album smelters) I can safely say that now the German Cranium Crunchers will not only kick the proverbial shit out of you but definitely deliver the final blow that will either send hardened headbangers to a QUIET RIOT owned padded cell (Look out Bubba!) or, well, the other thing. The ultimate in un-refined molten metal, mark my words thrashers!

"Watch Out" is over six minutes long with lots of guitar breaks, much better vocals and sound altogether." claims Reiner "Our first LP wasn't bad for a debut. Most bands first albums aren't too good (well, I don't know about that!) soundwise anyway but our second album will be much better, still fast but this time with some slow songs too." Whatever he means by that last statement I hope it's not that they're gonna wimp out!!

So when's it due? "Probably at the end of May or June. We haven't thought of any titles yet so I can't say what it will be called."

As for live gigs, well you European readers look like being lucky bastards! - "Up til now we haven't played many gigs. If you're a

new band with only one LP like us it's very difficult to play gigs in Germany. We did play some shows with STEELER (after WARLOCK blew out 'cos they weren't happy at using STEELER's PA) which was a good start for us. We will be doing more shows this year in Germany and our manager Hucky Heppke is trying to get some shows in Holland and we may play Belgium sometime too."

Given the increasing interest in Heavy Metal in Germany at present I should think arranging gigs should'nt present any difficulties anymore. However I am worried that the whole scene will blow out like it did in the UK and the US with an overkill of wanted and unwanted acts. I mean look at how many indie labels have sprung up in Germany over the past year? Noise (releasing material of any quality that is), Wishbone, Steamhammer, Scratch, Skyfire etc etc.

I shouldn't think any of Earthshaker's acts will come to grief, after all Herr T. knows what it's all about. Why would he sign STEELER, LIVING DEATH, BRAINFEVER etc. if he didn't?!

"Quite honestly you could drop the stylus on any track of "Vengeance Of Hell" and it would send even the most demanding headbanger into a pneumatic drill, Constable style frenzy" (Bernard Doe MF6). That, quite frankly, says it all!

# PENBANGERS

METAL FORCES • 17 Livingstone Link • Chells • Stevenage • Herts SG2 0EP

"METAL maniac very much into US metal seeks friends from the States to change tapes, LP's, fanzines etc. So metal up your ass and write to: Andy 'Metal' Siegrist, Pothaus Jassli 35, CH-5600 Lenzburg AG, SWITZERLAND.

"WANTED: any Angelwitch souvenirs like photos, programmes, t-shirts, demos, magazines... will buy or trade with you. Also want pen-pals from England and USA. Robert Junior, 2625 Marie-Lexauf, Trois-Rivieres, P-Quebec, CANADA, G8Z 3L7.

21-YEAR-OLD death metal collector wishes to trade tapes with any non-poser into Exodus, Megadeth, Possessed, Venom, Sacred Blade, Slayer etc... Your tapes list gets mine. Write to: Dave Steenson, 741 NE 127th, Portland, Oregon 97230, USA.

I'M a HM male '22. I'm looking to correspond with HM females 17-23+. I'm into Venom, Exciter, Crüe, Manowar and many more. I'm also into leather especially on females. please send pix. Steve Worth, 65-91 162 St Flushing, NY 11365 USA.

19-YEAR-OLD male would like a female metal freak 16+ to write to and trade tapes or meet. I'm into Metal Church, Manowar, Slayer, Venom, TKO, Warfare, Queensryche, Scorpions and most metal. Please write to: Stephen Coombs, 57 Crispsey Ave., Shelley, Ongar, Essex, CM5 0AU, ENGLAND.

16-YEAR-OLD blood metal maniac wants to trade live and demo tapes with other HM maniacs from England and USA. I'm into: W.A.S.P., Slayer, Anthrax, Possessed, Metallica, Exodus, Megadeth, Living Death, Overkill, Trauma, Gloom, Hivax, Manowar, Anvil etc. Write to: Louis Trausch 29 rue J.B. Esch, L-1473, Luxembourg, GDL.

PSYCHOTIC derelict into Exodus, Metallica, Slayer, Megadeth and all other bands that cause relentless devastation looking to trade VHS video tapes. My psychiatrist tells me that I have about 100 live/demo tapes and a few VHS tapes (including old Metallica and Slayer). Send lists and psychotherapy advice to: Charlie Gavinelli, 2170 East 9th St., Brooklyn, NY 11223-4902, USA.

SPEED Thrasher into Possessed, Slayer, Sodom, Exodus, Dark Angel, Destruction, Celtic Frost, Bathory, Death, Iron Angel, and Megadeth wants to trade demos and live tapes. Send your list to: Steve Main, 7538 Balcom Ave., Reseda, CA 91335, USA.

19-YEAR-OLD metal merchant into: Accept, Anthrax, Black Lace, Exciter, Abbaton, Grim Reaper, Metallica, Megadeth, Exodus, Zownite, Slayer, Oz, Living Death, W.A.S.P., Kiss, Savatage and more wants correspondence with pen-pals from US, Canada, England, Europe etc. Write to: Steve 'Savage' Field, 6495 Poplar Hill Lane, East Amherst, NY 14051, USA.

13-YEAR-OLD metal maniac wants to correspond with other metal maniacs. I'm into Metallica, Slayer, Satan, Hellhammer, Venom, Malice, Acid, Vol Vot, Anthrax, Exciter, Killer, Abbaton and all the American METAL. I'm interested in trading tapes, badges, posters, patches, T-Shirts, albums etc., write to: Joel Chevelain, 15 Val Marie, 1120 Bruxelles, BELGIUM.

17-YEAR-OLD power metal priestess looking for tale and female thrashers, who like me are 'possessed' by the Black Metal Gods: VENOM! I am also into Bathory, Warfare, Metallica and Slayer. I would love to correspond with any thrasher from anywhere in the world and I am also interested in trading news and articles on the above bands. Write to: Kim August, 42 Heron St., Long Beach, NY 11561, USA.

15-YEAR-OLD male from LA wishes to correspond with rockers all over. I'm into all kinds of metal except black/death metal. Mostly into glam/theatrical metal. Favourite bands include: Kiss, Hanoi Rocks, Wrathchild, Doll/Kery Doll, Sharks plus Maiden, Saint etc. I love to talk about LA metal, so please write to: Benjie Gordon, 18015 Sierra Estates Drive, Newhall, CA 91321, USA.

I am the anti-christ, I thrash to the sounds of black metal-death. I am into, Venom, Slayer, Bathory, Vol Vot, Celtic Frost, Exciter etc., I'm looking for neillings all around the world. Write to: Anti-Christ, c1-57 62 Rd. Middle Village, Queens, NY 11379, USA. No phoneys or false metal scum.

I'M a real metal fanatic, heavily into: DEUCE, Exodus, Priest, Anvil, Slayer, Fate, Megadeth, Loudness, Exciter, Venom, Iron Angel, Destruction, Anthrax, Bathory, Metal Church, Overkill, Artillery, T.Lizzy etc. I want to trade demos and live tapes and other metal related items. I'm also the editor of the metal mag GRINDER. All real metal fans please write to: Jim Powell, 102 N. Longcross Rd., Linthicum, Maryland, 21090, USA.

TWO Aussie metalheads into Priest, Metallica, Manowar, and all metal wish to trade demo and live tapes. Most wanted demos include Metallica (No Life Till Leather), Rising Force, Armored Saint, Manowar, Savage, Tank, Raven etc, however we are interested in all other metal demos as well. We have live tapes of Aussie metal bands to trade as well as Sabotage, Rainbow, Ozzy, Maiden, Purple etc. Your list gets ours. David Lewman and Guy Allen, 16 Cullen St., Belmont Nth, 2290, NSW., AUSTRALIA.



I'M a 19-year-old thrasher into Abattoir, Agent Steel, Deathdealer, Sacred Blade, Megadeth, Exodus, Possessed, Overkill, Slayer, Nasty Savage etc. Looking to trade demos and live tapes with fellow thrashers world-wide. Write to: Ted Chronis, S.U.C.B.P.O.Box 127, Bidwell Sta., Buffalo, NY 14222, USA. No posers!

METAL connoisseur seeks contacts worldwide for trading tapes, albums, info etc.. Faves include such bands as White Sister, Le Roux, Legs Diamond, Balance and Shy to name but a few. Write to: Barrie Kirtley Jnr, 21 Hardwick Road, Sedgfield, Stockton-On-Tees, Cleveland, TS21 2AL, ENGLAND.

ALL(REAL)BANGERS - I'm a fucking power-metal-thrasher into: Iron Angel, Mantis, Exodus, Bathory, Voi Vod, Running Wild, Celtic Frost, Fate (I), Hiram, Destruction, Sodom, Possessed and tons of other nasty shit. I have a huge demo list, a lot of live tapes and 100's of albums. I'll buy or trade anything. Send a demo list if you have one. Also a photo would be cool. If you like Crue don't bother to write, just fuck off and die!!! Eat posers!!! Alan Dubin, 555 North Ave., Fort Lee, NJ 07024, USA.

POWER death thrasher seeking other death thrashers to trade live tapes, demos etc. I'm into Slayer, Destruction, Sodom, Halloween, Celtic Frost, Anthrax. All those interested send lists. I have plenty of power thrash Metal to trade. Write to: Satan Angel, 1712 So. 5th St., Austin, Tx., 78704, USA.

HEADBANGIN' maniac from Holland would like to trade tapes with speed/black metal freaks all over the world. I'm into Slayer, Exodus, Anthrax but also Chateaux, and Satan/Blind Fury. Send me your list and I'll send you mine. Send 'em to: Oscar Perik, Dorpsstraat 41, 7524 CE Enschede, HOLLAND.

HELLO! 22-year-old male rock fan would like to write to, or meet female rock fan aged 18-30. My fave bands are: Kiss, Hanoi Rocks, Scorpions, Saxon, Twisted Sister, WASP, Golden Earring, Metallica, Lee Aaron (specially from the North East) preferred, but if you live abroad, please write also, to swap tour progs, posters, records etc. Send letter and a pic if possible (not essential though) to: Garry, 91 North Road East, Wingate, Co. Durham, TS28 5AY, ENGLAND.

DEMONIC death metal maniac from the infernal pit into Exodus, Slayer, Nasty Savage, Celtic Frost, Megadeth, Metal Church, Bathory, Possessed, Voi Vod, Destruction, Iron Angel, Venom, Abattoir and Metallica. I long to sink my yellowed fangs into mortals skin and feast upon their flesh. Any hardcore thrashers or metal maidens should write to: Neil Harding, Post Restante, 286-290 Cambridge Heath Road BC, Bethnal Green London E2 9DE, ENGLAND. (No wimps!)

HI! I'm 17, I want to establish different contacts all over the world to talk about good HM bands and I would like to know if there are any real headbangers. I'm serious if you are write to: Danus Lalic, 1340 36 Avenue, Montreal, Quebec H1A 3J9, CANADA.

20-YEAR-OLD. Thrashing Slayer freak seeks others to correspond and trade with. I'm heavily into the gods 'Slayer', also Exodus, Possessed, Fate, Sodom, Bathory, Voi Vod, Dark Angel, Celtic Frost, Acid, Venom, Megadeth, Living Death, and many more. So all you thrashers and death metal friends write to: Jason L., 11 Calcott Court, Calcott Road, London, NW6 7ED, ENGLAND.

ALL sons of Satan and daughters of Melissa! 16-year-old rattlehead into Maiden, Metallica, Megadeth, Hellhammer, Exodus, Venom, Voi Vod, Slayer, Overkill and all other high-speed hardcore thrash seeks lunatics to trade tapes, vinyl, bootlegs and views! Send your list to Thomas 'son of Satan' Schumacher, Schallenbergweg 29, 6920 Sinshain 3, WEST GERMANY. M.U.Y.F.A.

I'm a 16-year-old metal head into Metallica, Exciter, Slayer, Hellstar, Anthrax, WASP, Raven, and Glacier. I would like to hear from metalheads all over the world. I also would like to buy live and demo tapes of Megadeth, Exodus and other power metal groups. Please send your lists and letters to me: David Stroda, 22304 Coburg Road, Harrisburg OR 97446, USA

I'M a 17-year-old death metal maniac into Exodus, Slayer, Fate, Deuce, Overkill, Jag Panzer, Possessed, Venom, Carnivore, Celtic Frost. Looking to trade live and demo tapes. Michael Patriotic, 8601 25th Ave., Brooklyn NY 11214, USA.

HAWAIIAN hellrat heavily into black/death metal. My metallic faves are Venom, Slayer, Bathory, Sodom, Metallica, M.Fate, Anthrax, Exciter and more!! Would like to hear from real female bangers all over the world. NO Crue, A. Riot or Ratt. All letters answered!! Darren Amfison, 98-073 Papalealii St. Aiea HI, 96701, USA.

VIOLENT Thrasher into Pure Death and all real metal: Exodus, Metallica, Megadeth, Slayer, Venom, Sodom, Possessed, Tank etc. Seeks to exchange anything metal and correspond with all death bangers, metallithrashers, Legionaires and denim/leather chicks, no wimps, posers or stupid assholes! So please write to: Lance 'Blasted Reveler' Walker, 6720 S. Jeffery Blvd 302, Chicago, IL 60649, USA. Tel: (312)288-0368.

HEY! I'm a thrasher and I'm interested in buying any video tapes, live cassettes, odd recordings, original pictures etc., by Anthrax, Venom, Slayer, Anthrax, Metallica, Exodus, Anthrax! etc and I'm also interested in corresponding with overseas bangers. Any replies write to: Rob Dulaney, 115 Boylston Circle, Shrewsbury, Mass 01545, USA

FOR trade, live recordings of Anvil, Europe, H-Bomb, Y&T, High Power, Metallica, M.Fate, Queensryche, Raven, Satan, Sortilege, Venom, Vulcain, WASP, Rox, P.Maids, Warlock, Manowar, Steeler, Ostrogoth, Torch, Axe Witch and many more. I'm searching for Anthrax, Slayer, Grim Reaper. Write to: Stephane Fernandez, 4 Rue De La Perriere, 45380 La Chapelle St Mesmin, FRANCE.

19-year-old metal head into: Metallica, Motorhead, Saxon, Battalion Of Saints, Exciter, Venom, Social Distortion, Accept, Slayer, Rods, Tank, 45 Grave and other brain rotting material wants to hear from anybody with the same interests. M.U.Y.A! Write to: Jay Heycock, 102 Woodland Drive, Mechanicsburg, PA 17055, USA. P.S. No Crue, Leppard or Quiet Riot fags!

FEMALE into Hiram, Whiplash, Metallica, Slayer, Voi Vod and most other power/black metal. Please write to: Krystal Mahony, 2736 Bautista St, Antioch, CA 94509, USA or call (415) 778 2188. Thrash Till Death!

CRAZY, black, merciless, burning melted metal, 18-year-old seducers, covered in used dirty leather and "Riding On The Wind" destructive, torturing and powerful bikes, seek for metal queens and other female "stormtroopers" and headbangers into: Venom, Priest, Tank, Accept, Dumpy's Rusty Nuts, Anvil and Count Dracula. Fuck all the female disco and new wave prunes! Write to: Greek "jawbreakers" and "headgrinders", Kostas the "Guy for hire" and Alexis the "Antichrist". Address: 17 Syrou Street, Hologos, Athens, GREECE.

I'M the co-editor of a magazine called OBLIVION. I'd like to hear from metal maniacs all over the world. Into Metallica, Black Lace, WASP, Fates Warning, M.Fate, Jag Panzer, Raven, Exciter, Witch Cross, Grim Reaper, Icon and Kiss and bands to send demos, pic and bio for a definite review and a free copy of your review that will be published in my magazine. Write to: Oblivion C/O Christian Stee, 2815 S.Las Palmas Cir., Mesa, Az 85202, USA.

HARDCORE metal fanatic seeks to trade demos, live tapes etc. I'm into Fate, Venom, Exciter, Motorhead, Megadeth, Exodus, Anthrax, Abattoir, Sodom, Running Wild, Slayer, Voi Vod, Decapitator and countless others. I'm in a ieth metal band myself. Anyone interested in trading - contact: Mike Wade, 4614 Catmann St., Torrance, Ca 90503, USA. Thrash Beyond Death!!!

HEY, Hey, Hey, Penbangers 16-year-old male into Slayer(LA) Buzzard, Metallica, Exciter, Jag Panzer, Bernard Doe(!), Living Death, Dave Constable(!), Priest, Maiden(rules), S-Death, Dave Reynolds(!), Manowar, Motorhead, Steve Hammonds(!) Armed Forces, Kely Hellrazer(!) Grave Digger, Explorer, any other metal band and anyone on the MF team I forgot. Wants to rap with anyone on the same subjects. Object: Cranium Damage. Write to: Andre Carabajal, 6681 Doris Court, Commerce City, CO 80022, USA.

HI THERE! I'm an 18-year-old rocker looking for live tapes likes: Sammy Hagar, Great White, Ratt, Legs Diamond, '84, Armored Saint, Icon, Angel, Bon Jovi, Black 'n' Blue, Nightranger and other good rockin' bands. I've got a lot of tapes with European bands. So anybody who wants to trade or sell, send a list to: Felix Martensson, Tallbackegatan 9, S-212 30 Malmö, SWEDEN.

BELGIAN male into Exodus, Cities, Overkill, Metal Church, Cyclone etc. Wants to trade tapes with other metal maniacs. Send lists to: Johan Schoonejans, A.Van Campenhoutlaan 53, 1860 Meise, BELGIUM.

19-YEAR-OLD into speed and Black metal, Destruction, Bathory, Sodom, Slayer, Possessed, Exodus, Voi Vod, Celtic Frost to name a few. I have and big list and would like to trade tapes with anyone into the same. Write to: Ozzy, 417 No 13th St, Newark, New Jersey 07107, USA. Also wants to hear from Death Metal Bitches. No Posers Please!!!!

21-year-old. I'm the editor of Apocalypse magazine. I'm into Manowar, Jag Panzer, Hawaii, Maiden, Nuclear Assault, Armored Saint, Death Dealer, Exodus, Megadeth, Culpit, Pretty Maids, Vanadium, Agent Steel, Warlord etc... I want to trade demos and live tapes with maniacs all over the world. I've about 800 demo and live tapes. Write: Montean Didier, 25 Rue De Vouillee 75015, Paris, FRANCE.

I'M a 17-year-old who wants to acquire live music by Metallica, Exciter, Venom, Slayer, Anthrax, Hellhammer, Fate and other metal bands of the same class. The Metal God also wants HM's all over the world to write to rap, trade tapes, posters and patches. All letters will be promptly answered. Bang your head 'till you bleed to death! No wimps, please! Write, if you dare, to: The Metal God, Mr. Shaleem Hosein, 107 Burrows Road, Pinawa MB, ROE IL0, CANADA.

18-year-old male into Dio, Fate, Malice, WASP, Metallica, Dokkon, Savage, Snowblind and all other classy metal going around. Would like European and North American rockers to trade with me. I have over 350+ demos and live tapes (I'm particularly after demos). Adrian Clay, 46 Ellman Rd., Bewbush, Crawley, Sussex, ENGLAND.

BLACK METAL MANIAC (16) searching for metal goddesses world-wide, any age to correspond with. I'm into serious headbanging, thrashing and nothing but the heaviest, blackest metal around: Venom, Slayer, Hellhammer, Voi Vod, Artillery, World War III, Exodus, Sodom, Iron Angel, Exciter, Megadeth etc. All letters answered, send photo if possible. Posers and wimps don't write. Thrash to destroy! Please write to: Metal Massacre, 907 West Live Oak, Austin, Texas, 78704, USA.



# HELTER SKELTER

## DAVE REYNOLDS Catches HELIX On The Spiral Path

WHEN THE HAMMER FALLS.... Heavy Metal will still be here whilst smirking shit such as Frankie, Culture Club and the vile Marilyn will be more pop-fads swept into the history books written by Mike Reed, just as The Osmonds, Bee Gees and Adam Ant have been before them.

HELIX are the Canadian's answer to such rock'n'roll all nite'n'pawdee every day luminaries as KISS, QUIET RIOT and SLADE - a stomping, rocking, loud metal act. In a live setting, such as at London's Marquee recently, they do seriously maim QUIET RIOT, kick the probentials out of SLADE and could pose a serious threat to the once platform booted New Yorkers, who are but a pale imitation of the band I once knew and loved. On a cold Thursday night in January, Bernard Doe and myself weren't too impressed with HELIX's new material (such as "Don't Touch The Merchandise"), but HELIX do have excellent stage presence and a good rapport with the fans. Songs taken from their last two albums kicked ass, particularly those from 1983's "No Rest For The Wicked" and any band who can turn Dave 'Mr Sweden' Constable from a pre-show depression hit pessimist into a psycho headbanger/sex maniac apres gig must have something going for them, wouldn't you say?

For a metal band they do have rather a strange name, which can either be the external rim of an ear or a common snail!! Even more strange is that only now Capitol have decided to put the most recent HELIX offering out in the UK to coincide with a European tour. "Walking The Razors Edge" follows in the wake of the glorious "No Rest For The Wicked" album, which was one of '83's best releases. I don't think it's a hot follow-up, although it does have its moments ("Young And Wreckless", "Six Strings Nine Lives", "Animal House" and "When The Hammer Falls"). It does sound a bit of an ill-constructed job in places. Were HELIX under pressure when recording?

Vocalist Brian Vollmer: "To some extent we were. With "No Rest" we didn't really have anybody saying we had to have an album out by such a date but I still think this new record is a good album with some great songs. "No Rest" was probably a hard LP to follow. I'm very proud of that album. I wish I could write another song like "Heavy Metal Love!"

It was the exceptional quality of the "No Rest" LP that got them a deal with Capitol, which somewhat surprised me, as I thought they had recorded it AFTER they'd been signed. "We recorded that album with Tom Treumuth producing with a view to going round the majors. Capitol were the ones we signed to and we're very happy with them."

Pic Wayne Youngman



BRIAN VOLLMER

Drummer Greg Hinz: "We're also extremely grateful to Tom for the work he's done too".

Any of you who think HELIX are relative newcomers to the game are in for a shock. HELIX have been around for almost as long as KISS have. Before the Capitol deal they put out two albums on their own H&S label. "Breaking Loose" in 1979 with a line-up of Vollmer, 'Doctor' Brent Doerner (guitar), Paul Hackman (guitar), Keith Zubrigg (bass) and Brian Doerner (drums), whilst "White Lace and Black Leather" followed in 1981 featuring Mike Uzelac (bass) and Leo Niebudek (drums).

This record was actually released in the UK by Logo. Brian: "Fans keep asking me where they can get hold of "Breaking Loose" but I haven't a clue". (Try Shades mate!)

For the classic "No Rest For The Wicked" album Greg Hinz was recruited from a band well known to North American metal obscurists - STARCHILD, but their one and only album "Children Of The Stars" put out in 1978 is a real bugger to find! Greg: "If you find any, please let me know! I've tried everywhere from the record company to the dis-



tributors, shops, everybody! My Sister had one once but she sold it!"

Mike Uzelac left in 1983. Currently the bass position is occupied by Daryl Gray although it's STREETHEART bassist Spider Sinnaeve who appears on the latest album. As I said it is strange why Capitol have waited so long to put the record out as it's been available in North America and Europe since last Summer! Brian: "I don't really know why they waited so long but all I know is that they're showing a tremendous amount of interest and support in HELIX now which is much appreciated!"

It does seem odd that major labels in the UK are showing reluctance in putting out heavy rock albums. MCA took nearly a year to release NIGHT RANGER's "Midnight Madness" and TORONTO's "Girls Night Out". Capitol passed on ICON and the second MISSING PERSONS LP (not HR-but I like 'em), EMI America did the same with WHITE SISTER (AND dropped them altogether!) whilst neither STREETS (on Atlantic) or ARCANGEL (Portrait) saw UK release either, nor has LIONHEART (who are a British band!) on CBS!!

All of these albums were however (with the possible exception of LIONHEART) released in Europe by the respective companies. It appears to me that majors are more concerned with getting talentless dummies like PREFAB SPROUT (what's happened to them eh?!), DEPECHE MODE and WHAM onto Top of the Pops than showing any interest in promoting genuine rock music in this country. Still things do appear to be changing and with the EMI group well pleased at the success of IRON MAIDEN last year, maybe we're in for a surprise.

Greg: "I know in Europe our albums have sold very well, particularly in Germany. The markets where we sell the most albums are obviously those in which we're doing shows, such as the UK, Scandinavia, Germany, Holland etc. It's obviously wiser to play places where you have such support and a good audience is guaranteed."

Brian: "Surprisingly enough "No Rest" hasn't done as well for us in Canada as it has done in the US or in Europe."

HELIX's European following was done the world of good by their support slot on the 1983 KISS tour. In view of KISS' (bad) decision to take the greasepaint off, do you think that there was too much of a similarity between both bands in image? Greg: "In some ways but I hope we don't sound like KISS. Whereas we do all our stage choreography as a group they do their's on their own, particularly Paul Stanley". Brian: "Nobody can upstage KISS - we definatly didn't"

You HAVE had comparisons with SAXON - Brian: "I don't know that much about them, I've only heard a couple of things they've done. It doesn't bother me that we're compared to them or myself to their vocalist."

You've just put a single out from your new album, the cover of CRAZY ELEPHANT's hit "Gimme Gimme Good Lovin'". In view of Heavy Metal's notoriety at not getting radio play and therefore not charting (I think IRON MAIDEN's success in this respect is more due to Derek Rigg's sleeves and, possibly the unreleased B-sides) don't you think it a waste of time putting out single's here? Brian: "Well there's no harm in trying, you never know do you?" I'd certainly love to see HELIX with a UK hit (as I would any HM

outfit) because it's a great version of the song along with a superb video that I was treated to by Capitol's Debbie Bennett, featuring lots of gorgeous women (the Marilyn Monroe look-a-like was really dozy I'm told!) and apparently there's an X-rated version too! Could be massive in the US if shown on MTV! (The 'normal' version that is!)

Brian: "Have you seen the video's to "Heavy Metal Love" and "No Rest For The Wicked"? No? Well we had a bit of trouble in America just because we had girls in them". AHA! The usual 'HM is sickening and corruptive to the young' chestnut again! In Britain the only TV programme you could guarantee HM video's being shown on was the long dead children's TV prog 'Tiswas' because producer/presenter Chris Tarrant was a bit of a head-banger. (It was interesting to note that the later, adult version of 'Tiswas' was slated as being grossly indecent and got taken off the air, but I digress...).

Greg: "What's up with people today? In Canada they cut so much out of the movies that they just aren't worth going to see. You see more flesh on TV now! We were over in Amsterdam and went in this bar that somebody we know had been in a year ago and it was a live sex show then. Now all you get is a strip-tease act. We talked to someone on the door and they said that the police are really coming down hard on those places. It's happening everywhere".

Brian: "A cousin of mine had a friend whose Father was a film censor and being an agumentive type my cousin asked him why they banned so much. The guy told him that nobody should be allowed to see those kind of things because it was bad, disgusting and corruptive, to which my cousin replied "Well you must be more corrupt than anybody 'cos you've seen 'em all!" He got thrown out of the house in the end!"

HELIX were of course booked to play the Lilford Rock Festival last year which as you well know never took place because the local council refused to grant a licence to the promoters. Big Brother is here already it seems.

Anyway I suspect the band will be back in Europe by the end of the year in support of a brand new album they're already working on. Brian: "I'm writing some songs with Bob Halligan Junior who wrote "Rock You" for the last album (which personally speaking we find a bit crass for our tastes - sorry Brian!) and who of course worked with JUDAS PRIEST". Perhaps they'll play venues a bit bigger than The Marquee.

Greg: "There's certainly a big difference in atmosphere between The Marquee and Wembley Arena where we played with KISS!"





# POISON



POISON came together during the summer of 1983 in their hometown of Harrisburg. The band had previously gone under the monicker of PARIS. Drummer Rikki Rockett and lead singer Bret Michaels played in a band known as SPECTRES for 2½ years. Then they recruited bassist Bobby Dall and took guitarist KoKo Smith from rival band - DIRTY ANGELS. POISON then dubbed as "Heavy Metal's Lipstick Killers" played the East Coast for six months. After this they moved up to LA kissing everything barring their equipment goodbye. POISON arrived in Hollywood in March '84.

POISON were then discovered by LA legend Kim Fowley who said the band "make MOTLEY CRUE look like CANNED HEAT". He began working with them for an album project and then the two companies parted. That was really silly of Fowley, since methinks POISON are due onto bigger and better things. The three-track demo which I have features: "Steal Away", "Straight Ahead" and "Rock Like A Rocker" and is produced by Jim (RATT) Faraci engineer for RATT's "Out Of The Cellar" outing. They are all numbers which can certainly give RATT and CRUE a run for their money. Especially "Rock Like A Rocker" where vocalist Bret Michaels comes across as a stronger Vince Neal.

I recently got an update from KoKo Smith on the band. The band have completed a new batch of songs. This time the songs have been recorded for Atlantic Records, who also paid for the sessions. So a deal with Atlantic Records looks imminent? Well, KoKo certainly hopes so. KoKo also wants to get over to Britain A.S.A.P. and personally I can't wait to see them because they are gonna kill.

For more info write to: POISON, P.O.Box 2003, Hollywood, CA 90078-2003, USA.

KELV HELLRAZER

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# TILT

It's becoming more and more difficult for up and coming HM bands to get noticed these days. The breaks into the business are getting harder to find, the gigs fewer and the audiences smaller. That's the situation in the UK at least.

To get any major coverage your best chance of being 'discovered' is to be stumbled upon by a drunken Kerrudd or other such scribe trying to make the hazardous journey between bar and toilets at the Marquee during the support set. This journey is sometimes the only time many 'journalists' see the inside playing area of the Marquee.

Of course you severely limit your chances by playing outer London since yet another problem confronts you - that being persuading people to travel.

I somehow feel it in my bones that TILT will overcome these minor difficulties in their stride, purely because they are too good to go unnoticed for long. Before I go any further I'd like to point out why TILT are obvious candidates for success.

Firstly and most importantly, they have some strong material. At least half their current set would put many bands on major labels to shame, with some of the most powerful riffs your likely to hear outside of an AC/DC gig (not that they sound like our Aussie friends of course).

It's difficult not to be impressed by the band's writing ability which when combined with their second great asset - vocalist Dave Montgomery (truly in the Robert Plant mould) gives the listener a definite impression of something special going on.

At least four of the songs currently in the bands set are so strong they put most smaller bands well and truly in the fourth division.

This five-piece consisting of vocalist Dave Montgomery, drummer Mark Davidoff, bassist Tony Gopaul and guitarists Richie Pory and Lance Barrington, unleash a barrage of power-rock with stand-outs in "May-Day" - featuring an intense riff and superb Eddie Van Halen soloing from Richie Pory, "Rock Wild" - the set closer which lives up to its name and the astounding "Jumping The Gun" which comes across as a heavy metal version of BAD COMPANY. "Red Handed" is though my favourite track, which takes the band into



true speed metal territory - a headbangers delight.

It's refreshing to hear a UK band (especially a London one) trying and succeeding to be both heavy but highly melodic. TILT are playing what people want to hear and I'm sure with more exposure they'll progress up the competitive HM ladder of success. They may only be playing clubs such as Dingwalls and The Royal Standard at present but they are building up a strong following especially amongst those who are sick and tired of young homegrown bands trying to copy the American A.O.R. superstars.

I'd venture to suggest that TILT could eventually become a slightly more melodic version of the mighty EXODUS - that would be no bad comparison. Get on the bandwagon now. You can contact TILT at: 40 Rosebank Grove, Walthamstow, London E.17. The bands first demo should be available pretty soon.

DAVE CONSTABLE.

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EXODUS	NEW	TOIYC BLADE	Live in Holland
RUNNING WILD	NEW EP	DEATH DEALER	Live in Canada
SODOM	NEW LP	GRIM REAPER	Live in London '84
BATHORY	1st(Death metal)	TROUBLE	Live Illinois
VENOM	Manitou 12"	ROCCULTA	Dream of death(demo)
CELTIC FROST	Morbid tales	ANGELKILLER	demo(Italian Metal)
CRYSTAL PRIDE	1st	POWERAGE	demo(Italian Metal)
VOI VOD	War and pain	AEROW	Build to destroy(demo)
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# TURNAROUND IN TOKYO

DAVE REYNOLDS Picks Up The TOKYO BLADE Trail Once Again

Salisbury is a pretty poor excuse for a city. Watched over by the historic cathedral it is home to some and a pain in the ass to others having to put up with the tourist all year round. I fall somewhere in between the two, being that my parents live in the vicinity and I don't find the city interesting at all.

To make the place more lively for the Wiltshire headbanging hordes an enterprising gentleman known as Rod opened a record store in Fisherton Street close to the main-line railway station a couple of

years ago that caters for the likes of you and I by selling prime metal produce of the METALLICA, TKO, MAIDEN variety. Life is worth living for those unfortunates not able to plunder Shades in London.

Thanks to the great hospitality of Rod and his wife Liz it was in Rod Records that METAL FORCES took its second look at the goings-on in the TOKYO BLADE camp. TOKYO BLADE also come from Salisbury y'see and it was therefore an ideal opportunity for me to trade words with founder members Andy Boulton and

Steve Pierce.

Since Andy and I last spoke (see MF 4) TOKYO BLADE have recruited a new vocalist in Vic Wright and released a tremendous second album entitled "Night Of The Blade" which definatly elevated them to joint holders of the British HM 'Best Band' crown with the North-East's AVENGER, in my estimation. (Where art thou BLACK ROSE?)

Whilst Andy was happy with TOKYO BLADE's label Powerstation then, a helluva lot of water has passed under the bridge since - "We've completely fallen out with them" says Andy, "The first album



they gave us all this bull-shit where they said 'Look lads you've got four days to record this album 'cos we want a live feel and we want the energy' so we said alright, because like everybody else you dream of doing an album and when you get the chance you go for it - even if you've only got say four hours you go and try. So we did it and were'nt that happy, but for the second album they told us not to worry. We had two weeks with a producer who really didn't know what he was doing, so we ended up with the second album being less than what we'd have liked, although I don't want to slag it because the material has progressed and the band is shifting alot more now than it ever has and we're generally doing well, especially in Europe."

What about America? "In America we seem to have a lot of fans, we get a lot of fan-mail from the States. Whether this is due to our U.S. deal with Combat I don't know."

In France our company there, Bernett really are the business. They are the best independent label in the world, they're fantastic. If they say something is going to be done it will be. They've already assured us that whatever happend in the future we can do a third album in France and we can have a month in a top studio to do it."

Steve: "Nothing's a problem for them, they do any thing they can. They've just done the solo album by ex-RIOT singer Rhett Forrester."

Andy: "All the time Bernett are tying things up for us. This recent French tour (we spoke just prior to the T.B. tour in January) is ridiculous. When we did the first French tour last year with MAMAS BOYS there was eight of us in a Fiat van for two weeks, no hotels or anything - we just slept in the van! It was bloody hard but obviously we're glad we did it. Now we're going back over there and Bernett have sorted us out with this massive tour bus and things like that. They give us no bull, they've delivered every-time." You didn't end up doing the support to VAN HALEN in Paris did you? "Well VAN HALEN were billed to play that, the Breaking Sound festival, but like so many other bands they pulled out."



ANDY BOULTON

TOKYO BLADE were of course the band who lent their gear to Jack Starr and company. Andy: "Jack Starr? The guy is an asshole! I played through the same bass amp he did. At that time I had one new Marshall and so had John Wiggins. The other Marshall I use is an old one. Our bass player Andy Wrighton also has a new Marshall. One of the roadies we had was new, it was his first gig and we hadn't much of a chance to get together with him, so somebody's slinging up amps to him and he picked up this bass amp with Andy stamped across it, which wasn't particularly a smart idea looking back on it, but anyway he put it on top of my cab. So of course I was standing behind my stacks and hitting a few chords before we went on and I thought 'This sounds really bassy' but you normally get that kind of effect when you're behind the cabinets - it always sounds a lot boomier. So I went out and thought 'Christ what's happened to my sound!' - it was bloody awful! I turned round and saw this bass head! I screamed at the roadies and I just got put through the one amp."

"Anyway when we came off nothing was changed because they were going to use our gear. How it happened I don't know but the two amps were wired up again, so of course when Jack went out there he was getting the same shitty sound I'd been getting."

"That we did as a personal favour, they didn't pay us anything for the use of our

gear. Someone came up to me and said 'Look he's having real trouble with your gear, can you get up there and sort it out.' So I did but his roadie told me not to bother 'cos they've nearly finished. When he came off he didn't say thanks or anything he just said 'your sound was shit!' I don't know who he thinks he is but he obviously thinks he's bigger than what he is 'cos he just struts around like the sun shines out of every hole in his fucking body, know what I mean?"

Steve: "There were only two decent blokes in that band, Carl Canedy and Gary Bordanaro. I was shitting myself when Carl was pounding away on my kit! They're fantastic blokes."

At our last look at TOKYO BLADE the band were due to embark on their tour with MAMAS BOYS. They'd just recruited a lad from York to act as vocalist for the tour but it was supposed to be only a temporary thing. Andy: "Well that was Vic Wright! He learnt all the songs on the ferry to France, when we got off the ferry, before the gigs..... He had my Walkman on all the time, he'd never heard the songs before in his life! We were really crap-ping it for the tour! The first time we sound checked we thought it was either going to be good or really bad. The first song we did was "Break The Chains" and he got every word wrong! He got everything round the wrong way, back to front but he sounded really, really good, so every night we had these big sets of lyrics written out in day-glo felt tip!"

Vic has however learnt all the songs now and has played a major part in the success of the band following the release of the excellent "Night Of The Blade" album. A superb example of combined metal and melody highlighting the great song-writing talents the band have developed. Credit where it's due, most of the songs on "Night Of The Blade" were written with former frontman Alan Marsh who looks likely to appear with a new project very soon.

As for TOKYO BLADE's future recording plans... Andy: "Our third album will probably be out in June or July. It does depend on what happens record deal wise. Who can say at the moment?"

Pic M. Villalonga



# EVIL

With so many satanical outfits currently on the heavy metal scene it may come as a surprise to those who have not heard EVIL that the band are not in the mould of VENOM, SLAYER, SODOM, FATE and other such Black Metallists. Instead this four-piece from Copenhagen, Denmark put a special emphasis on melody while remaining heavy and still capable of injecting speed into their formula.

I recently spoke to drummer Freddie Wolf and I began by asking when the band were first formed? "The band were formed in 1982 by Kim Xmas (guitar), Pete Hurricane (bass) and Pearl Angel (vocals). I joined them about a year and a half ago. We used to have a second guitarist Tommy Strauss but we threw him out six months after I joined, or rather I threw him out. He just wasn't fit for a heavy metal or hard rock band, he was too old fashioned."

Originally the band were called NEVER MIND which is a strange name for a heavy metal band? "Yes it is. It wasn't so bad when we first started but it was obvious if we were going to get any recognition outside of Denmark then we would have to change our name."

The band changed their name to EVIL just prior to securing their record deal with the Dutch based Rave-On Records for whom they recorded their debut mini-album "Evil's Message". As I said earlier despite their monicker EVIL are not a Black Metal band. "No, absolutely not. 'Evil' is the girl on the cover of our album. She's cruel and we destroy her but on side two she gets her revenge and destroys us. It's simply her or us!"

Are the band happy with their mini-album? "There are some things we're not satisfied with, but if you look at it objectively I think the album is reasonably good. But it could have been better."

Have you got any idea about how many copies of "Evil's Prayer" you've sold? "Yes, I was told that the album has sold between 16-18,000 throughout Europe."

EVIL recently played some gigs in Holland, how did they go? "They went really well. Holland is the best audiences we've ever played for - they are fanatical. There was one guy who headbanged so much that he hit his head against one of the monitors and it started to bleed!"

When will you be recording the new album? "Probably in April. The style will be the same but it will be more heavier and of course better. Our music has developed a lot from the first album."



As well as recording a new album EVIL will also be undertaking a fairly extensive European tour playing gigs in Germany, Holland, Belgium, Italy, France and maybe Switzerland.

Those of you who have heard "Evil's Prayer" will know what a powerful band EVIL are. But for those who have so far ignored them as just another satanic band then give EVIL a listen and I guarantee you'll be pleasantly surprised. But remember - "The power of evil is not to be taken lightly."

KEN ANTHONY



# Armored Saint



## GLORY HUNTERS

MIKE VERGANE Talks To JOEY VERA

Here we are in 1985, and over in the U.S. we're starting to see the bands that led the wave of metal in the early 80's receiving major recording contracts. And yes, ARMORED SAINT was one of the first real metal bands to be signed. They don't know it yet, but they are setting a precedence and an example for all of the other American metal bands hoping for a piece of the glory.

Bassist Joey Vera says that he can't deny the fact that they (and other bands

like them) are being closely watched by thousands of garage bands in the U.S. They are watching to see how the label treats them, to see how their current tour fares and to see how big they can get. And of course, to see if there will be any more room at the top.

So listen up all you unsigned bands, Joey Vera has some advice for you: "I've been telling all the young bands I've met the same thing. What you have got to do is get



your songs on tape and get somebody who can distribute it and get it in the metal underground. The underground is worldwide. It's an easy way to let the world hear your music and you can do it yourself without a record company."

That's what ARMORED SAINT did and you can see that it worked for them. Another reason that it worked for them could be that they are such a tightly knit (Armored?) group. No personnel changes since the release of their famous 5 song demo in November of '82. In fact if you want to be technical about it, Vera is the newest member of the band because the group was founded by Dave Pritchard, Phil Sandoval, John Bush and Gonzo in early '82.

This is not to say that the road to glory was an easy one. In fact, it was the road that almost put an end to Joey's career shortly after he joined the band. A car accident had him in the hospital for 7 days with severe lacerations to his head and hands. But it's the successful band that takes what is dealt to them and makes the most of it. So in November '82, they took the accident insurance money and went into the studio and recorded their demo. An EP on Metal Blade followed in 1983. It included "Lesson Well Learned", "False Alarm" and "On The Way". It was a successful EP that sold 15,000 copies. So successful that Chrysalis Records moved in and signed them to an international contract.

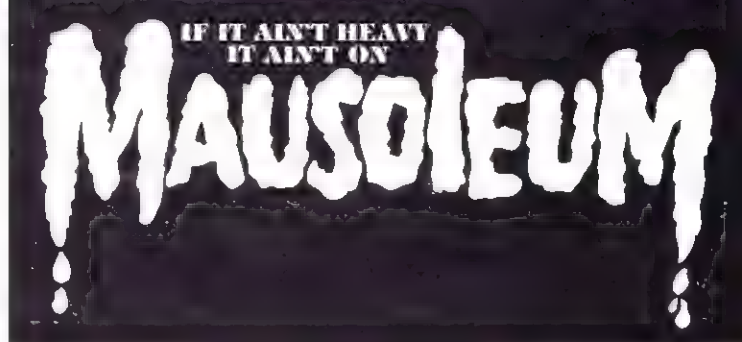
The next step to glory was the release of "March Of The Saint". It was produced by Michael James Jackson. Jackson was ARMORED SAINT's choice as producer, but according to Joey they were surprised with the final product. "Because of his production the album came across a little too controlled for us. It was if there was a straight line all the way thru it. No variance in the sound. We wanted a more colorful, greener sound if you know what I mean. I have to agree 100% with the criticism we've been getting about the tameness of the sound of the album."

One of the criticisms that I have heard more that once is the treatment that "False Alarm" received on the LP. As compared to its version on the demo and EP. Says Joey "We really weren't looking forward to doing it on the LP, but it was a request from Chrysalis and our management. We didn't want to re-record such a classic song."

Another song that was redone was "Stricken By Fate" that appeared on the demo. That leaves "No Reason To Live" as the only song from the demo that has yet to be put on vinyl. Will it ever be? "Ya, probably," says Joey. "It wasn't right for the sound of this album and it may not be right for the sound of our next LP. But we may do it someday."

Hopefully they will because it's a great piece of songwriting. Speaking of good songwriting, ARMORED SAINT came up with some gems on this LP. Anthems! "March Of The Saint" and "Glory Hunter" are two of the best they have ever written. Another cut that I find interesting and different from what they have done in the past is the song "Envy". Even though it is frighteningly "LA-ish", it is done with ARMORED SAINT power. And you know that with John Bush on vocals they aren't going to come across sounding like RATT. Heaven forbid!

So, with one US tour opening for WHITE-SNAKE and QUIET RIOT behind them and another tour with METALLICA in progress, it looks like their first step towards success has been completed successfully. Glory Bound!



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# HAWAII

## LIFE GOES ON

It's a long time since anything has been heard or seen of HAWAII. But now the band are back with the release of a new EP entitled "Loud, Wild and Heavy".

You may remember that a couple of years ago the band released an album - "One Nation Underground" - on Shrapnel Records with an appalling cover but containing some good songs. Never a classic record but still a good pointer for the future.

Since then the band have laid extremely low. Rumours abounded that they had split up, but these were scuppered when I received a letter from a close friend, and now HAWAII manager, Darryl Amaki, asking me to do an article on them. He explained that since the album the band had been mis-managed by a certain Norm Dale who would only do interviews for cash! Darryl's words not mine, but a bit mercenary, especially for a band who are not that famous. He apparently claimed that it was done to build a mystic around the group. But it had the opposite effect, and the bands popularity plummeted, and the overseas interest went. While this 'game' was going on HAWAII worked on a commercial type sound, leaning towards TWISTED SISTER and QUIET RIOT. These songs are now incorporated into their live set along with some of the older numbers.

HAWAII have always been built around lead guitarist Marty Friedman, a well regarded local guitarist. The bands full line-up now consists of: Eddie Day (vocals), Marty Friedman and Tom Azcredo (guitars), Joe Galisha (bass) and Jeff Graves (drums). It was this line-up that just missed opening for RUSH, DIO and QUIET RIOT because of the promoters lack of interest with Norm Dale.

The thing that caused the final break-up with the management was the release of "Loud, Wild And Heavy", which was done without the bands permission, and a release they are still trying to stop.

So at this moment HAWAII are in a cooling off period which is apparent in the answers that were given to me by Marty Friedman when I spoke to him recently.

How far have you progressed in the last few years? "Now that we have new management we're progressing at a faster rate."

Do you think all the line-up changes have affected the band in anyway? "Of course they have, but now I think we've finally got the right line-up."

What happened with Shrapnel Records? "Not too much, we were hoping for more publicity but maybe we were too early with the album "One Nation Underground!"

Any plans to gig outside Hawaii? "Yes, definitely. We want to get off the Island and play for everybody in the mainland."



MARTY FRIEDMAN

How did the album go? "We could have sold a lot if we'd released it now!"

Why has there been a delay between records? "Management problems."

Are you going for a more commercial sound with the new records? "Listen to our new album and decide for yourself."

Well there you have it. In my opinion they are hardly answers that would comply with the re-promotion of a band who wants to get into the public eye again. I would suggest in the future that if they wish promotion that they answer questions more fully, so not only interviewers but fans too have a chance to discover more about the group. Got me - good!

STEVE HAMMONDS

FOOTNOTE:- HAWAII's next album will be entitled "Proud To Be Loud", and will be released on the bands own label. Tracks will include - "Lies", "Life Goes On", "Dynamite", "Beg For Mercy", "Call Of The Wild" and "Proud To Be Loud". For more info and merchandise information write to:- HAWAII c/o Darryl Amaki, 769 Hoomalimali Street, Pearl City, Hawaii, 96782, USA.



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**BAND**

- 1 METALLICA
- 2 Slayer
- 3 Iron Maiden
- 4 Venom
- 5 Mercyful Fate
- 6 Manowar
- 7 Motorhead
- 8 Exodus
- 9 Judas Priest
- 10 Raven



# READERS POLL RESULTS '84

**MALE SINGER**

- 1 RONNIE JAMES DIO
- 2 Geoff Tate
- 3 King Diamond
- 4 Eric Adams
- 5 Bruce Dickinson
- 6 James Hetfield
- 7 Rob Halford
- 8 Cronos
- 9 Tom Araya
- 10 Ian Gillan

**LIVE BAND**

- 1 METALLICA
- 2 Iron Maiden
- 3 Dio
- 4 Venom
- 5 Slayer
- 6 Motorhead
- 7 Mercyful Fate
- 8 Judas Priest
- 9 Exciter
- 10 Raven

**DEMO**

- 1 MEGADETH
- 2 Exodus "Lesson In Violence"
- 3 Nasty Savage "Wage of Mayhem"
- 4 Over Kill "Power In Black"
- 5 Liege Lord
- 6 Destruction "Bestial Invasion"
- 7 Possessed
- 8 World War III
- 9 Malice
- 10 Hirax

**FEMALE SINGER**

- 1 DOROTHEE PESCH
- 2 Lee Aaron
- 3 Lita Ford
- 4 Maryann Scandiffio
- 5 Wendy O'Williams
- 6 Kate
- 7 Jody Turner
- 8 Ann Boleyn
- 9 Nicole Lee
- 10 Darby Mills

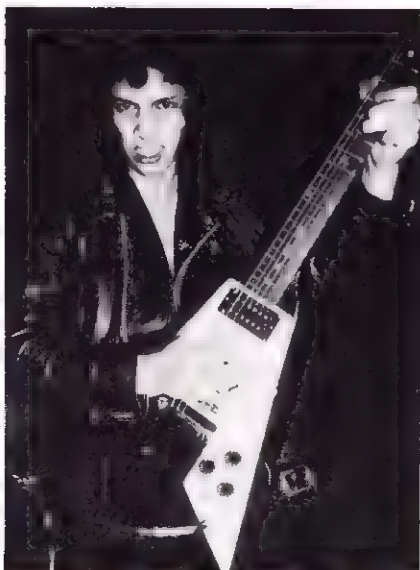


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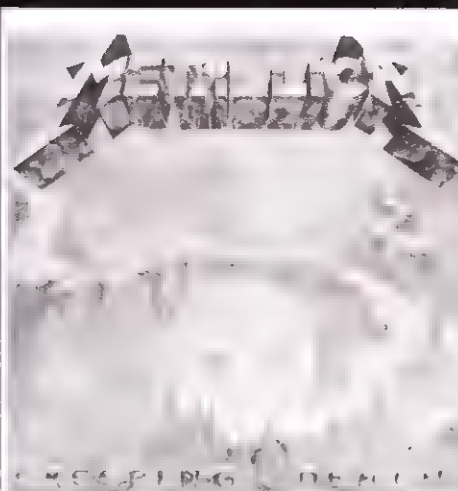
- 1 STEVE HARRIS
- 2 Cliff Burton
- 3 Joey DeMaio
- 4 Billy Sheehan
- 5 Lemmy
- 6 Cronos
- 7 Timi G. Hansen
- 8 John Gallagher
- 9 Alan Johnson
- 10 Jimmy Bain

**ALBUM**

- 1 "RIDE THE LIGHTNING" METALLICA
- 2 "Don't Break The Oath" MERCYFUL FATE
- 3 "Powerslave" IRON MAIDEN
- 4 "At War With Satan" VENOM
- 5 "Red Hot And Heavy" PRETTY MAIDS
- 6 "The Warning" QUEENSRÿCHE
- 7 "Violence And Force" EXCITER
- 8 "The Last In Line" DIO
- 9 "Ample Destruction" JAG PANZER
- 10 "Disillusion" LOUDNESS

**GUITARIST**

- 1 KIRK HAMMETT
- 2 Yngwie Malmsteen
- 3 Akira Takasaki
- 4 Gary Moore
- 5 Kerry King
- 6 Hank Sherman
- 7 Dave Murray
- 8 Mantas
- 9 Eddie Van Halen
- 10 John Ricci

**SINGLE/EP**

- 1 "CREEPING DEATH" METALLICA
- 2 "Haunting The Chapel" SLAYER
- 3 "Animal (Fuck Like A Beast)" W.A.S.P.
- 4 "Manitou" VENOM
- 5 "Warhead" VENOM
- 6 "Killed By Death" MOTORHEAD
- 7 "Aces High" IRON MAIDEN
- 8 "Apocalyptic Raids" HELLHAMMER
- 9 "2 Minutes To Midnight" IRON MAIDEN
- 10 "All Men Play On 10" MANOWAR

**KEYBOARD PLAYER**

- 1 JON LORD
- 2 Don Airey
- 3 Alan Owen
- 4 Greg Guiffria
- 5 Claude Schnell
- 6 Geddy Lee
- 7 Mark Stanway
- 8 Jens Johansson
- 9 Sentinel
- 10 Ross The Boss

**MAJOR SUCCESS IN '85**

- 1 METALLICA
- 2 Exodus
- 3 Pretty Maids
- 4 Slayer
- 5 Megadeth
- 6 Raven
- 7 Metal Church
- 8 Chariot
- 9 W.A.S.P.
- 10 Venom

**DRUMMER**

- 1 LARS ULRICH
- 2 Dan Beehler
- 3 Nicko McBrain
- 4 Robb Reiner
- 5 Rob 'Wacko' Hunter
- 6 Dave Lombardo
- 7 Cozy Powell
- 8 Vinnie Appice
- 9 Tommy Aldridge
- 10 Charlie Benante

**MOST RIDICULOUS THING**

- 1 KERRANG!
- 2 Quiet Riot
- 3 Motley Crue
- 4 Hellhammer
- 5 W.A.S.P.
- 6 Posers
- 7 Venom
- 8 King Diamond
- 9 Deep Purple Reforming
- 10 Ratt



# METAL ON VINYL

## SLAYER

Hell Awaits  
(Metal Blade/Roadrunner)



Totally unreal! SLAYER's second LP is just totally unbelievable. Never, but never have I heard such O.T.T. thrash; such controlled precision speed metal I never thought possible.

VENOM, SODOM, CELTIC FROST you are all obsolete - move over and make way for the ultimate Black/Death metal Gods. I advise you all to delete all wimp and poseur metal now, before it is too late - before SLAYER get to your brains - before "Hell Awaits" eats into your head demanding a major slice of you!

"Hell Awaits" is seven tracks, all are faster than other bands can even dream - all are controlled, all are classics.

From the opening introduction of the title track one can sense world domination being at this band's fingertips. Riffing so fast you cannot keep up - I defy you.

"Kill Again" hanks back in essence to "Show No Mercy" but is faster - just believe me, total speed. If you survive that "At Dawn They Sleep" will further pummel you - yet another non-single with fuck-all chance of airplay - brilliant. Slightly slower, slightly more conventional, I'd probably recognize the riff if played at half speed. Tom Araya's vocals are ominous - combined with some of the heaviest playing on vinyl ever - this may be one of metals finest hours.

Side two - "Necrophiliac" (the grossest lyrics ever?) total speed, "Praise Of Death" - intense thrashing material. "Crypts Of Eternity" - goodbye FATE you are no more. "Hardening Of The Arteries" - I cannot take any more - Please help me. Just the best LP ever (maybe!) Certainly the overall fastest, certainly to be hated by wimps/Kerrang/everybody but the true believers. Anyone at Kerrang who dares to show any liking of this LP is lying - slag it off please - make it sell.

If you hear SLAYER and hate them you can F.O.A.D.

"Hell Awaits" is one serious slab of vinyl - BUY BUY BUY.

DAVE CONSTABLE

## RAZOR

Executioners Song  
(Viper Records)



This Canadian quartet caused quite a stir with the release of their self-financed "Armed And Dangerous" mini-album (reviewed in MF 7) last year and now the band are back with a six year recording deal with Viper Records, the new 100% heavy metal label launched by Attic Records.

"Executioners Song" features 11 killer tracks of which four - "Take This Torch", "Fast And Loud", "Hot Metal", and "The End" - are re-mixed more polished versions from "Armed And Dangerous". "Take This Torch" is absolutely brilliant - one of the best power metal tracks of '84.

The newer material is generally more thrash orientated especially "City Of Damnation", "Escape The Fire" and "March Of Death" where RAZOR have taken their earlier METALLICA influences into SLAYER territory to produce a deluge of power and mayhem that's second to none.

"Deathrace" and "Distant Thunder" do show touches of METALLICA while "Time Bomb" and the fast'n'furious "Gate Crasher" are more in the MOTORHEAD vein especially with the raw, aggressive vocals of Stace "Sheepdog" McLarden whose also capable of throwing in some Halford like screams to great effect.

"Executioners Song" is without a doubt one of the best power/thrash metal releases of '85 so far and deserves to break RAZOR into global underground acceptance.

BERNARD DOE

## KING KOBRA

Ready To Strike  
(Capitol Records)



This is Carmine Appice's new outfit and forming this troupe could turn out to be the best thing he's ever done. Those of you who foamed at the mouth over titanic mega-duo FIERCE HEART will just lap this album up all the way. Kicking off with the title track, "Ready To Strike", excitement is never out of the red zones. Right from its short guitar intro to its crunching verse riff. "Hunger" is the single culled from the LP, and has

a highly memorable chorus which is the sort of thing WHITE SISTER are famous for. "Shadow Rider" is a bit basic for me, whilst "Shake Up" reminds me of classis URIAH HEEP. "Attention" is fast riffing rock'n'roll rather like the drum/riff workouts TRIGGER used to turn out. Dig the riff in the middle of this number - I can see many a head rollin' to this one.

"Breakin' Out" opens the LP's second side and is as hot as they come. Filled with class and power. LEGS DIAMONS/Y&T come to mind on this one. The guitar solo on this number is highly melodic and fits the number perfectly. Carmine Appice's drum roll starts "Tough Guy" a moody mid-paced number. "Dancing With Desire" is like Rod Stewart, the LP's low spot for me. But it's back to rockin' for "Second Thoughts" - a tight, well put together little ditty. Album closer "Piece Of The Rock" is a KICKAXE number from the writing credits, and of course it sounds like KICKAXE and brings the album to a thunderous close. This album should turn out to be one of '85's finest.

KELV HELLRAZER

## STRATORS

"....Never Too Late"  
(Axe Killer 7005)



STRATORS are one of the few french metal bands that I have heard whose vocalist sings in English, or in this case broken English. To be honest though the effect is more nauseating than one of improvement.

Musically the album has its moments with the opening number, "No Way To Rest" being the highlight of side one.

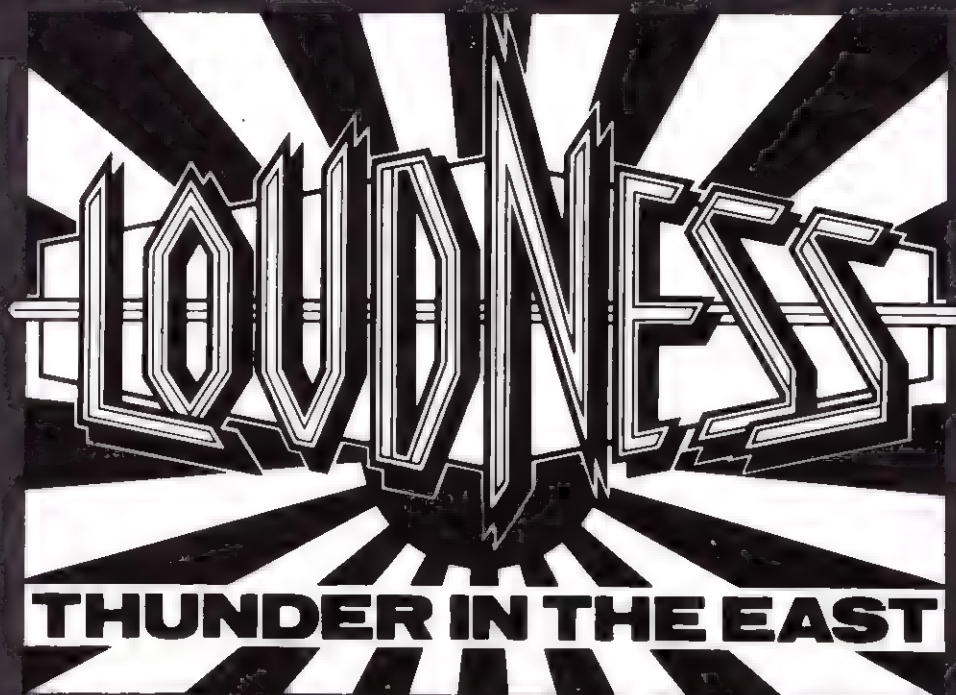
Guitarist Patrick Costeaux lays down some fine leadwork throughout especially on "Come On (We're Goin' To Awake)". A fast paced rocker this in the MAIDEN mould. But the best number has to be "Fail Safe" which is very reminiscent of the SCORPIONS, even down to the Klaus Meine like vocals of Gilles Melco.

Of the remaining five numbers only "Brainstorm" manages to impress despite its choppy pace which loses some of the excitement from the number, but all in all not a bad debut.

BERNARD DOE



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SAVATAGE "THE DUNGEONS ARE CALLING" MFN 42

EXODUS "BONDED BY BLOOD" MFN 44

MEGADETH "KILLING IS MY BUSINESS,  
AND BUSINESS IS GOOD" MFN 46

**ROGUE MALE**  
ARE COMING



## CHASTAIN

Mystery Of Illusion  
(Shrapnel Records)

8

Apart from WARLOCK and ACID I can't say I go a bundle on female fronted metal bands. However CHASTAIN seem to be another exception to the rule with the powerful Dorothee Pesch/Jody Turner raunchy vocal style of Leather who was formerly with ROCK GODDESS clones RUDE GIRL.

The band are named after their lead guitarist David T.Chastain who like Yngwie Malmsteen - another guitar hero brought to the metal worlds attention by Mike Varney - is a highly talented master of the fret board although not, I'm happy to say, quite as self indulgent. Also David has the added ability of being able to write strong metal tunes. The fast paced "I've Seen Tomorrow" is a fine example where the band gel their talents for a superb menacing assault of hard aggressive metal.

"I Fear No Evil" is another high quality track where Leather excels her vocal talents to the max. The remainder of the tracks vary from the no-nonsense power attack of "When The Battle's Over" and the semi-doom metal of "Night Of The Gods" to the ballad "Endlessly" all of which adds up to a most promising debut.

BERNARD DOE

## HEXX

No Escape  
(Shrapnel Records)

8

Formerly known as PARADOX, HEXX hail from San Francisco but unlike many of the thrash bands coming out of the Bay Area recently these guys opt for a more accessible form of metal, more in the SABBATH/OZZY/DIO mould. But don't dismiss HEXX as mere clones for they deliver a heavy and aggressive sound that is often both adventurous and original.

There's few albums released these days that do not include at least one bum track but "No Escape" is consistent throughout. "Look To The Sky" and "Night Of Pain" are probably the highlight tracks due to some highly imaginative riffing from Dan Watson who also lays down some excellent lead work, especially on the title track.

"Terror" and "Invader" also deserve a special mention for their sheer aggression and if HEXX can develop on the consistency shown with this debut then the next album could be a killer.

BERNARD DOE

## SPLIT CROWE

Rockstorm  
(Guardian GRL2167)

7

I've always approached Guardian releases with some reservations, but I've got to say that this time round I was pleasantly surprised. This is real 10-Gallon hat, Southern Fried Boogie at its best. I find the slide guitar sound a little weaving after awhile but the songs are good, and the band chugs along in fair style. Their influences are fairly obvious. LYNYRD SKYNYRD/ZZ TOP hybrid with shades (pardon the pun!) of the EAGLES, but don't let this put you off. I warmly recommend this album to all. Hoots.

PHIL MACSPORRAN

## Guitar Pete's AXE ATTACK

Dead Soldiers Revenge  
(Heavy Metal America)

6

Guitar Pete is one Pete Brasino who is a competent New York guitarist but hardly in the Yngwie Malmsteen or Akira Takasaki hero worship league.

The music is typical American heavy rock ranging from strong quality rockers in the shape of "Road Warrior", "Thirsty For Blood" and the more uptempo "Satans Twister" to the more mundane offerings of "Gutter Rat", the QUIET RIOTish "Ball Breaker" and "Shattered Paradise" which is like a poor man's "Parisienne Walkways" but lacking the mood of the Gary Moore classic.

The production is fairly dreadful throughout and generally AXE ATTACK will need an improvement in all departments with their next offering before they can hope of having any impact on the metal scene.

BERNARD DOE

## FIONA

Fiona  
(Atlantic Records)

7

The FIONA in question is Fiona Flanagan. Another female vocalist in the Bena-tar vein. Looks wise Fiona kills, music wise well I think she has the voice but I think maybe the material in places could be better, but that's not to say that there aren't any high spots on this debut. "Hang Your Heart On Me" is a good opener, nice powerchords with keyboard fills. This number could make a good single. "Talk To Me" is an old SHANGHAI number written by ex-AIRBOURNE man Beau Hill who at this moment is busily producing the new KIX

album. This again is good rock music but I could have done without the sax playing. "You're No Angel" is excellent and my favourite cut on the LP. Crushing powerchords mingle with Fiona's powerful voice. Bobby Messano (ex-STARZ/FRANK AND THE KNOCKOUTS) turns in some hot guitar pyrotechnics on this one, he does prove to be an attribute to this album. His guitar fits perfectly with Fiona's vocal range.

"James" the side two opener, see's Fiona almost doing a Joan Jett impression. Love the cowbell drumming from Joe Franco. "Love Makes You Blind" is a moving semi-ballad with some well structured keyboard passages at the chorus. The "Na Na Song" closes this LP and is absolutely disastrous, the mention of Na Na a thousand times at least makes this an absolute low spot on the LP. This number is terrible. Sure Fiona is gonna be big, but I'm looking to the next LP for when she starts challenging the likes of: Teri De Sario and Lisa Dal Bello. Nice to see that former CENTAURAS vocalist is still around. Yes the CENTAURAS vocalist Louie Merlin does back-up vocals on this LP.

KELV HELLRAZER

## MAKE UP

Straight Liner  
(Nippon Columbia)

7

Produced by LOUDNESS drummer Munetaka Higuchi, "Straight Liner" is MAKE UP's second album.

Generally the music is very US influenced AOR with a heavy layering of keyboards but lacking the good harmony backing vocals of their superiors.

"City Lights", "Got A Chance" and "Lady Rosie" are all good commercial rockers very similar to WHITE SISTER. But I much prefer the faster paced and heavier "Energy One" which is by far the albums best cut.

The cover version of SWEET's "Fox On The Run" is fairly forgettable - just like the original! So too is the plodding rock of "Matenro", "Heart Of Iron" and "Wishing".

The instrumental "Astral Drops" is pleasant enough but I'm afraid it does nothing for me. Neither does the dreadful ballad "No Return".

MAKE UP are not exactly my cup of tea when it comes to Japanese metal, but there are a few strong numbers on this album and it could be worth investigating if your into the likes of JOURNEY, WHITE SISTER and GUIFFRIA.

BERNARD DOE



## ATLAIN

Living In The Dark  
(Earthshaker/Mausoleum)



Only those who read the German metal press (IE Rock Hard, Metal Hammer) will have heard of ATLAIN. To be perfectly honest these guys haven't got anything to offer that I haven't already heard from other bands, but the commitment and power is there for all the world and his twisted little sister to hear, and there's definatly no substitute for sheer power is there? Well, unless it's the ability to write good songs.

Produced by Axel Thubea-ville, ATLAIN race through a selection of heavy riff laden metal cuts, slicing everything in sight. Satanic black metal fans will surely love the lyrical content (sin, hell, devil, priest etc) so this is probably gonna be a top priority purchase, especially if you hear "Evil Forces", "Satanica" or "Thousand Nights In Hell" before you buy.

Relying on chunky razor sharp guitaring from Andreas Buttner and Jorg Pryztarski and the nasal whine of Peter Muller, ATLAIN certainly know what it takes to become a good metal unit (refer to "Hallowed By The Priest", "Dig It" or "Sphinx" for confirmation) and I'm certain that the guiding light of Herr Thubea-ville will see them further.

DAVE REYNOLDS

## MEGADETH

Killing Is My Business  
And Business Is Good  
(Music For Nations)



This I suppose is one of the most eagerly awaited metal LPs in a long time. Thrash fans everywhere are hoping for a "Kill'em All" part two, no doubt. Well there's no way MEGADETH and METALLICA can really be compared. Dave Mustaine (who to all intents and purposes is MEGADETH) has come up with the first 'experimental' thrash LP. I guessed this would be the case when I saw the band in San Francisco last November playing to an audience half dedicated, and half perplexed by what they were hearing.

MEGADETH is built around complicated riffs played for the most part at high speed, but there is a distinct lack of rhythm backing throughout. Maybe that's why people I

spoke to at The Stone seemed to prefer the band when Kerry King from SLAYER was brought in on extra guitar.

Still the LP will appeal to speed freaks everywhere - its total uncommerciality will see to that, although I doubt if Mustaine will achieve the worldwide success that he helped give METALLICA, at least in the short term.

"Killing" shows up what a one-man show this project is though, with Mustaine's vocals piercing through the mix, at first being difficult to take but gradually growing on you as time progresses. But really this is a guitar LP with dynamic complex riffing being its trademark. Bass and drums just form a backdrop for this man's talents, and he even has the nerve to record "Mechanix" (a la "Four Horsemen" with different lyrics and at a different speed - faster!) I want to avoid individual tracks though since this is vinyl to enjoy as a whole. Faults there maybe - the soloing's not as good as expected for a start, but I'm sure MEGADETH will open a new era in thrash metal. One where death for deaths sake will become a thing of the past. Where speed and talent will go hand in hand. Dave Mustaine - We Salute You!

DAVE CONSTABLE

## MASS

War Law  
(Macho)



I'll give these guys one thing, they don't give up! As a favour I once tried to get them a UK record deal. I hadn't the heart to tell them why I couldn't. "War Law" is the fifth MASS release and furthers the reasons for their failure to break out of the shackles rooting them to their spot; adding nothing new or original to a thriving national scene spoilt by the emergence of top class acts in the past year.

You could once have passed the band's average offerings off as those of a new band finding their way. Sadly with the renewed interest in the metal ball-park, MASS have been overtaken by a whole host of new talent who make the quartet sound both dated and lacking musically. This, from the point of guitarist Dave Schreiber is nothing short of a

tragedy. Here is a man just itching to be a star and could well be if let loose in a more interesting, youthful act.

The Martin Pearson produced "War Law" covers no new ground, ripping off their previous release "Metal Fighter" (which was an improvement on previous output). Compared to German vocalists of the calibre of BRAINFEVER's Horst Neumann or SADO's Andre Cook, Jake E Burnside's singing pales into a melting pile of insignificance. Musically only Schreiber's guitar solo's and the PRIEST imitation of "Chained" flickered through the boredom I felt when listening to this record.

DAVE REYNOLDS

## OMEGA

The Prophet  
(Razor Records)



Not really METAL FORCES material, even the band would admit that I think, but well deserving of a review due to OMEGA's attempt to cross the progressive barrier to more straightforward rock/metal.

I reviewed their demo in an earlier issue of METAL FORCES and was suitably impressed. Now with "The Prophet" the band attempt to cross into more commercial metal territory. The result is fairly successful. I feel OMEGA could well appeal to a wide rock audience; but not opting to follow the path of MARILLION and other such dire progressive bands they have given themselves an identity.

Some of the tracks on "The Prophet" are a bit refined for most metal fans I admit (viz "The Dark" and the title track), but even these have good rocking passages, "The Dark" includes some fine guitar soloing from Steve Grainger. However this LP is Heavy Rock/Metal and should as a whole be treated as such. It's the sort of stuff most rock fans can relate to and should sell quite well given decent exposure. The LP does have a Piece De Resistance in "The Child" which is a fine track and would be worthy of many a larger band. I advise you all to give OMEGA a listen for yourselves - you could have a pleasant surprise.

DAVE CONSTABLE



## IRON TYRANTS

World Metal Report  
Compilation  
(World Metal Records)



First of all, I'm not one for metal compilation albums. Generally I find them boring, unimaginative and pretty much useless. Compilation LP's are usually only for the benefit of the band that appears on it. A chance to show the public what they're all about.

"Iron Tyrants" is a 10-track LP of American Heavy Metal and Hard Rock Bands; NASTY SAVAGE, TEAZER, TYTON, BLACKSTAR, BOSS TWEED, ENFORCER, DEATH SLAYER, POSSESSION, MESOMORPH and TEEZE. Three bands from Texas, Five bands from the East Coast and two bands from the Chicago land area. Since METAL FORCES space is oh so valuable, I'll only touch upon the highlights of the LP.

NASTY SAVAGE! What more needs to be said. Any album that contains 'The Savage Ones' has to be cool. Dave Richards needs to be patted on the back for being the first to put N.S. on vinyl with their cut, "Unchained Angel". This is a real plus for the LP!

Another great cut belongs to Dallas' BOSS TWEED. Not much is known about them other than they have a demo tape out entitled "Jacuzzi Murders", which happens to be the cut that appears on the LP. Their sound on this cut can best be described as TROUBLE after listening to RUSH's "2112" LP. BOSS TWEED is a band to look out for!

Chicagoland's ENFORCER also comes out fine a cut with "High Treason" to close out side one. The one thing that caught my ear with this band, outside of the crunchy 'Wall Of Guitars' sound was the vocals of Doug Trevison. Yet another fine band that is coming out of Chicago these days.

Another thing that makes this LP a fine buy is an 8-page booklet that accompanies the LP and gives you a little information on the bands that appear. Granted it's not in-depth earth shaking information, but it shows that Dave Richards is willing to try something new in the way of compilation LP's, and it seems to have worked.

This is not to say the album doesn't have flaws. It does!

First and foremost is the sound quality on half of the cuts. It's terrible and at

times painful! A little more time in remixing could have made all the difference in the world.

Second is the photo on the album cover. All I can say here is, "Oh Brother!"

Finally, a message to the band TEEZE. Hang it up with your cutesy image! If you only realized how stupid it looks! You've got some talent; don't ruin it by looking like a bunch of assholes.

MIKE VERGANE

## DESOLATION ANGELS

Desolation Angels  
(Bullet)



Well, better late than never I suppose but this debut vinyl offering (LP variety) from DESOLATION ANGELS is well overdue. The good thing however is that it's been well worth the wait. When I first covered the band in MF many eons ago I was convinced they could prove that true heavy metal lies not only in the US, Germany and Sweden, and that we Brits (especially the East London kind) could produce a band of outstanding death-metal quality. That's not to say the "ANGELS" are thrash-far from it, but if you like your metal genuinely heavy a la TROUBLE, SAVATAGE and SABBATH then this LP's for you.

It contains a magnificent collection of memorable, barnstorming riffs harking back to the good old days of UK metal in 77-79. I'm positive if this band had been around then they'd have been superstars by now since they'd have trodden on much of the wimpem that progressed to the big time from this era. Still, down to details - the LP opens with "Spirit Of The Deep"; Powerchords oozing out everywhere here, a headbangers delight. The more doom metal of "Evil Possessor" follows and leads to a remixed version of DESOLATION's first single "Valhalla" which I feel is vastly superior to the original - although I know of those who disagree.

"Unsung Hero" is powerful stuff too, with more fast riffing instore to keep everyone happy.

A shiver of fear went down my spine when first hearing "Death Machine" - it begins well in a CIRITH UNGOL type way (Yuk!) but quickly

settles down into another burst of death mayhem riffs and solos everywhere - Yeah!

"Wild Gypsy Woman" slows the tempo - definitely in TROUBLE territory here but still powerful, whilst the closing track "Angry Running" keeps the tempo flowing.

So apart from the fact they all support useless football teams, these guys prove there is still life in UK metal. Buy or die!

DAVE CONSTABLE

## VULCAIN

Rock'n'Roll Secours  
(Devil Records)



Well, better late than never I suppose. Although VULCAIN's debut LP has been available some months now, it's only been in recent weeks that I've sat down and given it a good listen. Usually the thought of French metal sends a shiver down my spine. As a rule our friends from across the Channel come up with some strong tunes but spoil them by singing in a language that sounds nothing short of ridiculous to these ears at least. By putting vocals usually high in the mix the whole French metal scene becomes pretty inaccessible to the English speaking world.

Still enough of my prejudices - on to VULCAIN who have both surprised and delighted me with their fresh approach. This is heavy power-metal, well and truly in the MOTORHEAD vein. Not as OTT as Lemmy and Co, but raw powerchords and gruff vocals add up for some interesting material. Being completely uni-lingual I can't tell you what vocalist Didier Lohezic is on about but it doesn't matter here anyway due to the rough sound he obtains. "Rock'n' Roll Secours" contains some powerful straight ahead songs such as "Le King", "Bossier" and "Pile On Face" (dig that title!) as well as some more constructed songs re "Le Fils De Lucifer" and the title track. My favourite song on the LP is "Overdose" though with some pretty immense riffing - serious headbanging material here.

Still, all in all a fine debut from a good young French band, although I'd be a bit worried as to their success potential outside of their homeland or say Canada or Mustique (not the biggest HM market!).

DAVE CONSTABLE



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## VENOM

Possessed  
(Neat Records)



VENOM have for so long been the trend setters for many up-and-coming bands of total noise destruction whether it be black metal, power metal, death metal or just plain heavy metal. But recently I've felt that many of the students have been beating their tutors at their own game by releasing vastly superior product. "Possessed" though is probably VENOM's most accessible album to date which should at least retain their respect from the VENOM Legions.

The album contains no less than 13 tracks of bang 'em 'till they bleed quality varying from the MOTORHEAD mould of "Flytrap" and the power metalized "Powerdrive" to the total thrash of "Voyeur" the albums best track. "Mystique" too is worth a special mention for its unusual Spanish style guitar soloing from Mantas. True, "Possessed" may lack a "Bloodlust" like classic but the good news for VENOM fans is that the Geordie black metallists have hardly wimped out as some may have anticipated after the dubious "Manitou" single.

BERNARD DOE

## SAVAGE GRACE

Master Of Disguise  
(Black Dragon Records 001)



The newly launched, French based, Black Dragon Records have certainly come up trumps with their first release.

"Master Of Disguise" is SAVAGE GRACE's second vinyl offering and a vast improvement on their "Dominatress" EP. They have brought in a fine DIO inspired vocalist - Mike Smith to replace John Birk as well as ex-AGENT STEEL guitarist Mark Marshall, though he doesn't appear on this album.

After a somewhat dodgy opener in the instrumental "Lions Roar" which reminds me of TOKYO BLADE, the album is a deluge of speed metal without a ballad or a mundane rocker in sight. "Sons Of Iniquity", "Sins Of The Damned" and "Bound To Be Free" are power metal at its best with the latter featuring some maniac leadwork from Christian Logue.

"Into The Fire" and the superb title track are more in the thrash mould whilst "Fear My Way" and "No One Left To Blame" sound more like MAIDEN on speed. Finally "Betrayer" is a little more subdued (just a little) and in the DIO

vein but great just the same.

"Master Of Disguise" does have one weakness and that's the production which lacks the crispness of the recent RAZOR and EXODUS releases. But this apart the album is a strongly recommended buy.

BERNARD DOE

## GRIFFIN

Flight Of The Griffin  
(Shrapnel Records)



Those of you who possess GRIFFIN's demo will know these guys have potential, and on their debut vinyl release they have come up with a goodie of an album. Enhanced by a heavy but definitive production (ie. the sound is not cluttered but crisp and fresh), GRIFFIN deliver some pretty powerful stuff which, although sub-thrash oozes with energy. Sure, there are distinct MAIDEN overtones, but by keeping a basic feel to the album the band will avoid accusations of cloning etc.

Best tracks are the first two on side one "Hawk The Slayer" and "Heavy Metal Attack", the opener being a lesson in how to intelligently use different tempo's to devastating effect within one song whilst "Heavy Metal Attack" is more in the anthemic mould - good banging stuff.

Other standouts are "Creepier", the title track and "Judgement Day", although there are really no bad tracks.

GRIFFIN have produced a well buyable first LP worthy of many a record collection. So get out and buy it!

DAVE CONSTABLE

## TRAUMA

Scratch And Scream  
(Shrapnel Records)



By far the heaviest of the recent Shrapnel releases, "Scratch And Scream" is to me also the best.

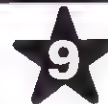
Overall TRAUMA don't fit in to the thrash classification - methinks they are more of a varied power-metal outfit. Although at times the LP does wander close to EXCITER/SLAYER territory re the tracks "The Day All Hell Broke Loose" and "Bringing The House Down", the majority of TRAUMA's material is not quite there. They have quite a unique sound in fact with Donny Halliers vocals being listenable but unusual.

The band can play slower yet remain heavy as on "The Warlock" and as with GRIFFIN a good clear production enhances the overall impact of the LP.

DAVE CONSTABLE

## MAINEEAXE

Going For Gold  
(Powerstation-AMP 5)



Last year's "Shout It Out" debut from MAINEEAXE was a powerhouse of hard'n' heavy rock at its best. Since then the band have gone through a number of line-up changes and have brought in three ex-SYAR members; Grant Kirkhope (guitar), Roger Gibbons (bass) and Nigel Harrison (drums) alongside original MAINEEAXE's Dave Stewart (guitars) and the talented Mick Adamson (vocals).

The album is full of strong rockers. Notably "Rock Is The Word", "The Score", "I Will Ride The Storm" and the single "Gimme Your Love" with its catchy chorus chant.

A couple of numbers don't quite make the grade, namely the title track with its rather corny radio commentaries of the Coe/Cram and Decker/Budd Olympic confrontations and the ballad "Alone Again" which is not a patch on the excellent "The Game" from their debut but all in all "Going For Gold" with its great polished production is a fine successor to "Shout It Out" and can only enhance MAINEEAXE as one of Britain's most exciting new bands.

BERNARD DOE

## MARTYR

For The Universe  
(Megaton 0010)



Despite its fanatical heavy metal following Holland has never really succeeded in producing high class metal acts. Now I'm not saying that this four-piece from Utrecht are about to set the world alight but for a band so young MARTYR sure show signs of having the capabilities to succeed where many have failed.

Musically the band are probably best described as early MAIDEN with touches of RUSH technicality with tracks such as "Speed Of Samurai", "The Eibon", "Four Walls" and the six-minute epic "The Awakening" all being based around complex rhythms with a heavy emphasis on the dual twin lead attack of Rick Bouwman and Marcel Heesakkers. "Black Sun" is more straightforward and less adventurous than the other cuts.

"For The Universe" is far from a classic album - the bands songwriting needs time to mature before that - but as a debut it certainly lays a sound foundation for a successful future.

BERNARD DOE





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## ROGUE MALE

First Visit

(Music For Nations-MFN40)

9

It would be easy to make extravagant claims on behalf of this album, how different and staggeringly original it was, for instance, or how the musicianship was at a premium, but I won't! What I will say is that this is one beast of a rock'n'roll record, with pure menace coursing through its grooves like blood through a rock'n'roll heart. Subtle it isn't, vicious it is, brimful of snarling aggression and stabbing metal that almost betrays its English roots. I'm sorry about the corny, animalistic clichés, but when you hear this album you'll forgive.

Exploding out of Tooting's savage(?) wastelands, ROGUE MALE comprise Johnny Fraser-Binnie on guitar (anyone remember DIRTY TRICKS? Well forget 'em!), Steve Kingsley on drums, Phillippe Clarke on bass and, true blue semi-maniac ace in the pack, the evily enigmatic Jim Lyttle on something approaching vocals, but a whole lot more venomous.

There are really no conclusive points of comparison, it's just rock'n'roll of the first order, no if's, but's or maybes. From the opening barrage that is "Crazy Motorcycle", complete with MONTROSE "Bad Motor Scooter" style guitar effects, through the insistent metal stomp of the superb "All Over You (I'm Gonna Shoot My Load All Over You)", to the driving "Dressed Incognito" there is no let up at all. It's not thrash metal, there's nothing the least bit black about it, and it hardly qualifies as (ahem!) death metal (who invents these bloody terms anyway?) but it has as much raw power as any metal album you'll hear this year, and that's a promise! The fact that it also proves itself to be thinking man's metal (or metal with a message) is a bonus. Witness side two's "Unemployment", a song that probably applies to one in five of you reading this!

In conclusion, this album is a must for all metal fans, a collection of wickedly fine songs litterally stormed through by a band with a real killer touch. If this was the soundtrack to a film, the film would almost certainly be refused a certificate!

GEOFF GILLESPIE

## SOUND BARRIER

Born To Rock

(Pit-Bull Records)

8

The first all-black metal unit to get a major deal. It's a real shame they lost it, what material I've heard from the debut convinced me that they really did have something. Still, the guys have bounced back with this five-track mini-LP.

Well they're good and they're hard. A raunchy riff bounces through the opener, the ultra-catchy "Conquer The World". Spacey T. is certainly a very impressive guitar player. I like this band! They even attempt to revive some life into that well-worn STEPPENWOLF song "Born To Be Wild" (I tell ya TKO used to do the definitive cover of this). I'd rather have heard another original.

"Raging Heart" ends side one off with some dirty headbanging material. The way Bernie K. delivers his vocals makes this track remind me of that ages old US metal obscurity CRYSTAL SUSPENSION on speed! Again it's a catchy hook-line that captures my interest and some really intense rhythm work by Stanley E. (bass) and Dave Brown (drums).

"Born To Rock" itself has distinct IRON MAIDEN overtones and is FAST! Lastly "Do Or Die" ends proceedings a little more down-tempo and a little more radio-airplayable. Just because these guys happen to be black doesn't mean they suck. SOUND BARRIER are great! Interview anyone?

DAVE REYNOLDS

## KEEL

The Right To Rock  
(Gold Mountain)

7

With friends like Gene Simmons how can anyone possibly go wrong? Maybe someone should ask TRIGGER that question, wherever they are now! Seriously, Ron Keel is about to break BIG-TIME with huge dollar signs whirring in front of his eyes, which is what he wanted ever since he took STEELER to Los Angeles. The problem is that Ron's trying to be the new KISS, or, is it Gene Simmons who is trying to make KEEL sound like what the new KISS should sound like?!

"The Right To Rock" is an amalgam of Keel originals and Simmons penned contributions. Simmons has never

been the greatest of song writers without Paul Stanley, being a little too in love with his groin and Keel's in danger of falling into the same trap (viz: "So Many Girls So Little Time", "Get Down", "Electric Love").

Musically KEEL (the band) do deliver. Marc Ferrari and Bryan Jay are fast becoming the hottest duo in LA metal. They crank it up here, whether it be on teen anthems like the title track, gonzo metal of the "Speed Demon" variety or basic KEEL HM like "Back To The City" (arguably the album's most lethal cut with a fuckin' brilliant guitar break at the start), but not all is rip roaring good stuff.

"Easier Said Than Done" and "So Many Girls..." sees Ron trying very very hard to be Gene Simmons - the voice that is. A bad sign. Meanwhile "Get Down" (a Simmons song) sounds as if it's been rejected from the Wendy O'Williams album (listen and discover) whilst the only reason for covering the STONES "Let's Spend The Night Together" is probably to get it a bigger radio audience than it did on the "Lay Down The Law" album. Ronnie's clever huh?

Some of this album sounds genuine, the rest sounds contrived. I can't say it any fairer than that.

DAVE REYNOLDS

## BLACK DEATH

Black Death  
(Auburn).

8

So BLACK DEATH have the distinction of appearing in Kerrapp's Janet and John guide to metal. What better recommendation can you get than to be slagged off by Xavier The Bigger and Paul 'Superwimp' Suter. An essential buy before it even hits the turntable I think and most importantly it's got my name on it - absolutely unreal!

Well to be honest this isn't an astounding debut, but it shows promise. It's pretty raw but really powerful, some fine molten riffs are contained within this LP. Songs such as "The Hunger", "The Scream Of The Iron Messiah" and best of all "Black Death" (a real mega-epic) show this Cleveland band to have real potential although they're not quite in the Superstar league yet. I think BLACK DEATH could go places in the not too distant future - they are original and heavy. Get it!

DAVE CONSTABLE



## TEAZE

One Night Stands  
(Heavy Metal America)



In my opinion TEAZE were one of the most underrated hard rock/metal acts of the seventies and Heavy Metal Records are to be congratulated for reviving the bands best album (originally released in 1979) for those who may have missed this four piece Canadian outfit first time round.

It must be said that this latest release differs slightly from the original version as two songs - "Stay Here" and "Boys Night Out" - have been omitted in favour of a previously unreleased number entitled "Loose Chains" which is a rather abysmal country rock like ballad. Whosever idea it was to include this rubbish wants their head examining, although to be fair to Heavy Metal America the former two tracks were included on the recent "A Taste Of Teeze" compilation.

Two tracks on the album are absolute gems, namely the DIO like epic "Touch The Wind" and "Heartless World" which builds up from its acoustic opening to a climatic ending - excellent stuff!

The remaining tracks are all of the highest quality, ranging from the STARZ like "Back In Action", the funky "Young And Reckless" and the fast paced rocker "Red Hot Ready" to the more commercial style of "Reach Out" and the AOR orientated "Through The Years".

"One Night Stands" totally blows away many of today's melodic metal upstarts and is thoroughly recommended to those who prefer their music a little more subtle to the sounds of thrash and death metal. Also check out the bands earlier more heavier albums, "Teaze", "On The Loose" and the live offering "Tour Of Japan" but avoid the disappointing "Body Shots" which marked the end of a great band.

BERNARD DOE

## RAVEN

Stay Hard  
(Atlantic)



"Stay Hard" is RAVEN's first album for Atlantic and see's the band blending some new ideas into the formula that's brought them to where they are today.

The title track is a good strong mid-tempo rocker to open the proceedings, with "When The Going Gets Tough" following in similar style but having a slightly more commercial edge to it.

"On And On" with its catchy singalong chorus is even

more commercial and I much prefer the anthemic fist punching metal of "Get It Right" - side one's best track.

The side closes with "Restless Child". I'm afraid this boppy commercial rock does nothing for me although I'm sure it will gain the band plenty of radio airplay in the States.

On to side two and "Power And The Glory" is much in the same vein of "Stay Hard" while the ballad "Pray For The Sun" - just released as a single in the UK - doesn't suit RAVEN's style at all.

I was surprised to find a new version of "Hard Ride" from the band's first album included here but a welcome inclusion just the same.

"Extract The Action" is RAVEN at their best being a hard'n'fast, aggressive affair which is only bettered by the final number, an instrumental entitled "The Bottom Line". Here the band are at their most adventurous motoring along at a fair pace accompanied by an orchestra and all to great effect.

Personally I'm not over keen on some of the newer style RAVEN material like "On And On" and "Restless Child" and there's sure to be cries from some quarters that the band have sold out. But only a handful of British Metal bands have achieved the kind of Stateside success that RAVEN have on sheer hard work without all the glossy hype and for that the band are to be applauded.

BERNARD DOE

## SUGARCREEK

Rock The Night Away  
(Ripete Records)



Believe it or not this is SUGARCREEK's third LP. Now SUGARCREEK hail from Charlotte, North Carolina and Shades Records is the only European outlet stocking the LP. The other LP's are:

"Live At The Roxy" (now deleted) containing LE ROUX's "Let Me Be Your Fantasy". The second LP is an absolute classic, reminiscent of Canuck outfit ZON; it contains the track which could be heralded as the greatest pomp cut of all time, "Conquest For The Commoner!" Hear and believe.

Now this outing may not be quite as intense as "Fortune" the '82 offering, but I tell you it's a scorcher for an indie release. Side one's magical moment is "White Hot" (an ode to ANGEL surely). Then we have the STYX like ballad "Together Again" which could easily make a hit

single. "Got My Eye On Her" is radio rocking at its finest, similar to the gloriously melodic "White Hot" but not quite as heavy. Taken at a faster pace is side two opener "What's Gonna Happen", where vocalist Tim Clark turns in a fine performance. "Never Say Forever" is very much like TOTO, a kind of semi-ballad, with an apt guitar solo, "Love So Strong" is straight out of the ZON songbook circa "Back Down To Earth". It has that unique quirkiness that was a ZON trademark. Rhythm guitarist, Michael Hough takes the vocal helm on "One Way Street" and is just as proficient at vocalizing as he is at guitar wizardry. "What A Night" closes this fine LP and is slightly disposable in comparison to the other material.

To think that the CRFEK has existed all this time without a major deal is incredible. According to Dave Fisher from SUGARCREEK's management the majors aren't interested. Well, I think they must be bloody idiots not to pick up on a band like SUGARCREEK who could go streaking up the US charts. In the meantime pass me my SUGARCREEK sun visor.

KELV HELLRAZER

## MAD AXEMAN

Mad Axeman  
(Mausoleum Records-Skull18329)



MAD AXEMAN would certainly make a great name for a thrash metal band. However this German quintet have opted for a more pedestrian ACCEPTish style sound for their debut offering. The opening number, "Mad Axeman (Comin' Home)", even with its blatant "Starlight" riff, is a strong rocker and certainly blows away anything on the dwarf fronted krauts recent "Metal Fart" abortion.

Unfortunately only "Come On And Feel It" and "Mad At Me" match the strength of the opening cut with the remaining numbers ranging from the melodious second rate SCORPIONS like "Pear Harbour" to the totally boring "Sometimes". The album also contains a rendition of "Hell Raiser" - one of SWEET's better singles - but this one is not a patch on the original.

As a debut album I guess it's not a bad effort, but next time MAD AXEMAN are going to need to show a lot more consistency.

BERNARD DOE



## MARINO

Marino II  
(SMS-SP28 5150)



While many Jap metal bands are opting for a typical US AOR sound, MARINO's influences lie purely in Europe.

The frantic metal attack of "Welcome" opens the album in fine style and is the bands best song to date.

"Now Is The Time", "Take You Higher" and "Just Can't Stop" are highly recommended rockers in the early SCORPIONS mould. "Fade Away" and "Dancing In The Moonlight" are two more numbers that should get the heads banging but sadly MARINO fail miserably with the two ballads, "Singer" and "Stream Of Time", which are nothing short of boredom - to my ears at least.

As an album "Marino II" - complete with the ever impressive lead guitar work of Raven Ohtani - is a worthy successor to the bands debut - "Target".

BERNARD DOE

## METAL OVER AMERICA

(Mausoleum Records-Skull8340)



With so many independent labels currently on the scene who are prepared to sign just about anybody and release if not a full length album, then a mini, the quality of bands appearing on many compilation albums of late is reaching an all time low.

Thankfully "Metal Over America" is a little better than most, featuring six bands based in or around the New York area.

BLACK LACE are the name band in the pack having already released one successful album "Unlaced" on Mausoleum with a follow-up due anyday. However, their offering here of "Born To Raise Hell" does nothing to impress me in the slightest.

Much more interesting are ATTILA and the heavy pounding metal of "Interceptor" - the albums best track. The bands other cut "Urban Commandos" is more in the PRIEST vein and another good effort. Certainly a band to keep an eye on.

Of the two NUHAVEN tracks, I prefer the more uptempoed "Take Cover" than the boring plodding metal of "Crazy Sally".

TRACE sound quite promising with the heavy commercial style of "Feel Your Love Tonight" and "Don't Say You Will" but the songs are ruined by poor production which is nothing more than average demo quality.

Ardent metal collectors will remember TAKASHI from the "Kamikaze Killers" 12" EP they released on Mongol Horde a couple of years ago. Then they were labelled as JUDAS PRIEST clones and on the evidence of "Live To Rock" and the fast paced "Kill Or Be Killed", nothing has changed.

This leaves 2 TIMER with their self titled offering that was included on their demo first reviewed by Dave Reynolds in MF6. Like TRACE, 2 TIMER opt for a more commercial metal sound which could see the band going places given a little more time.

The album sleeve is sadly lacking in band info and next time I'd like to see Mausoleum follow the example set by the "Cleveland Metal", "Etched In Steel" and "Iron Tyrants" compilations and be more informative about the albums contents.

BERNARD DOE

## VYPER

Prepared To Strike  
(Greenworld)



Initial reports about VYPER had led everyone to believe that they were nothing more than a poor man's Y&T. VYPER are a different kettle of fish altogether, relying on a crafted heavy rock stance of DOKKEN like commerciality welded like a siamese twin to its bastard heavy metal brother. Y&T are a bit more commercial aren't they?!

Vocalist for this Kansas quintet is Christy Black who is a more than capable frontman, not only employing a raspy passionate style on "Cold As Stone" or the very classy "Nighttime Is Wild" but also has a wild aggression in his voice on the superb "Diamonds" or "Runnin' With The Pack". A true star.

Employing an ACCEPTish guitar attack, guitar freaks will go a bundle for VYPER's twin barrelled assault care of Robbie Saint and Jacky Foxx (no relation to the ex-RUNAWAYS bassist or you know who!!). The aforementioned "Runnin' With The Pack" features a real speaker blowing instrumental section toward the end which is enhanced by an excellent production.

Song-wise VYPER's writing is above average even though I feel the opening tracks on each side rely too much on air-play possibilities than

anything else. Side two's "Can't Stop Dreamin" is a good example of this, being a little too poppy for my liking.

But forget the pap muzak, what's in all this for Grandmaster Thrash (Bernard Doe) and the furious five million bang 'em til they bleed merchants? Check out a little relief from the "Poser Music" and give yourselves a dose of "Dealer" or "Drivin' Me Insane".

Now if VYPER can try not to look grossly over-glammed for their next album then we could be talking seriously about these guys creating a huge dent in the metal wall of noise soon.

DAVE REYNOLDS

## LOUDNESS

Thunder In The East  
(Music For Nations -MFN38)



Apart from a dodgy second album LOUDNESS have always come up with consistently good product and "Thunder In The East" is no exception.

There's not exactly any power metal in the "Esper" mould this time round but musically the band have matured and in turn have become far more classier as is evident from the opening number "Crazy Nights" which has recently been released in Japan as a single.

My personal fave tracks are the faster paced non-nonsense assault of "Get Away", "Clockwork Toy" and "The Lines Are Down" with the latter featuring some excellent soloing from the highly talented Akira Takasaki who as ever is in sparkling form.

For me, ballads have never been one of LOUDNESS' strong points and "Never Change Your Mind" only enhances that opinion. Another weak track is "Run For Your Life" which surely has to be the most used song title of the '80's.

The remaining numbers - "Like Hell", "Heavy Chains", "No Way Out" and "We Could Be Together" are all strong rockers of the highest order, although the latter, even with its excellent riff, is a little too close to recent ACCEPT territory for my liking.

"Thunder In The East" is a fine indication to why LOUDNESS are Japan's No. 1 band and there can be little doubt that they will become the first Jap. metal combo to break Big-Time in the western world.

BERNARD DOE



## SODOM

In The Sign Of Evil  
(Devils Game-SPV Mini LP)



This band have been getting a lot of abuse from fellow MF scribes who have been comparing SODOM to the infamous HELLHAMMER. Now while I could never quite come to terms with the torturous musical style of the boys from "Switzer-fuckin'-land" (although I'll admit CELTIC FROST are an improvement), I have to admit my

liking for SODOM.

To be fair to Messrs. Constable & Co., the messy "Blasphemer" is a little too near to Tom Warrior, HELLHAMMER era for comfort, but it's the two numbers on side one that stand out in this pack of five. "Sepulchral Voice" is basically TOKYO BLADE's intro riff to "If Heaven Is Hell" delivered at death thrash speed and to great effect. Whilst musically, the frenzied attack of "Outbreak Of Evil" owes more to early MOTORHEAD influences

than say SLAYER or other such black metal bands.

It must be said that the Bestial Disaster vocals from Angel Ripper are up to the usual abysmal grotesque standard but that apart SODOM seem the business.

On side two along with the aforementioned "Blasphemer" we have "Witching Metal" and "Burst Command Til War". Both numbers are typical raw, gross and almost tuneless helpings of death metal. Buy AND Die.

BERNARD DOE

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## SINGLES & E.P.'S

### CHARIOT

All Alone Again 12"  
(Shades Records)

CHARIOT's heavy semi-boogie style may not be to everyone's taste (there again what band are?) but there's no denying that what they do they do well and with plenty of conviction.

"All Alone Again" with its catchy chorus is a typical CHARIOT hard'n'aggressive rocker while "Run With The Pack" and "Warriors" are remixed heavier versions from the album "The Warrior".

If you haven't heard CHARIOT then this EP will make a fine introduction.

BERNARD DOE

### TOKYO BLADE

Madame Guillotine 12"EP  
(Powerstation-OHM 9T)

For me, "Night Of The Blade" was a little disappointing after their classic debut album. But with this, their latest vinyl offering, TOKYO BLADE are back on top form.

The title track is a fast paced, and dare I say it - MAIDENish type, affair and is typical TB.

Even better is "Break Out" which is much heavier and is one of the best numbers the band have written to date.

"Love Struck" is another strong rocker and wets the appetite perfectly for the next album.

BERNARD DOE

### THE ROD

Knightmare II  
(Raucous Records)

If you like raw, heavy, aggressive metal then this Californian band are for you. Although the songs are on the short side (under two and a half minutes) both "Warlord" and the faster paced "Probation Violation" are just what the doctor ordered and feature maniac vocals from The Rod along with some excellent leadwork. Well worth checking out. The single is available for \$2.50 from Raucous Records, P.O. Box 2295, Seal Beach, CA 90740-1295, USA.

BERNARD DOE



## REVENGE

Hot Zone EP  
(Minotaur Records)

I must admit I've never really been a great fan of spaghetti metal. But if this debut EP is anything to go by then we're sure going to be hearing a lot more of REVENGE in the near future.

The opening cut "Don't Play With Fire" is superb. Raw, thrash and heavy with excellent leadwork to boot.

"Rock You To The Top" and the title track are a little more commercial, ala SCORPIONS but good stuff all the same.

The remaining numbers "From Heaven To Hell" and the instrumental "Battlefield" are of only average quality but given the right exposure REVENGE could well be the band to open the gates for Italian metal.

BERNARD DOE

## TEEZE

Party Hardy  
(SMC Records)

Greenworld are heralding this lot as the hottest thing since MOTLEY CRUE. And sure "Party Hardy" has all the glam bam qualities that take you back to that classic CRUE first LP. Vocalist Louis Rivera even sounds like Vince Neil (what's new). Flip side "Going Away" is less commercial than the A-side, but is quite a strong number for a B-side - the guitar work of Brian Stover/Greg Malack is hot. By the time you read this TEEZE's debut album will be out; should be hot. Contact:- TEEZE at SMC Records, P.O.Box 308, Lansdale, PA 19446, USA.

KELV HELLRAZER

## PAUL CHAIN VIOLET THEATRE

Detaching From Satan EP  
(Minotaur Records)

Paul Chain is an ex-member of that cult Italian metal band DEATH SS and this is the first release from his new band.

Vocally Chain reminds me somewhat of Robert Plant especially on the opening number "Occultism" with its weird intro.

The ultra-heavy "Armageddon" sounds like HENDRIX meets ZEPPELIN while the remaining two numbers "Voyage To Hell" - which features some good heavy duty leadwork from Chain - and "17 Day" are more in the doom metal mould ala TROUBLE.

BERNARD DOE

## WHITE LIGHTNING

The Poison Fountain/  
Hypocrite  
(Wild Party)

Ex-STATIC and ICEMON vocalist Noel Jones turns up in this new British group (named after one of the best UK fanzines of the early eighties?!) lusting for success. Lyrically the band do no wrong, the music could be a bit heavier but a good effort all the same.

The first cut concerns itself with the denial of major companies that they cause disease by pollution of land, sea and air, whilst the second is based on a guy Noel used to work for. A good single. To obtain it send £1.40 or (if overseas) £1.70 (prices include p&p) to Noel Jones, 41 Richmond Park Road, Kingston On Thames, Surrey KT2 6AQ, ENGLAND.

DAVE REYNOLDS

## LEGION

Nice Guys Finish Last  
(Legion)

This self-financed single is just what the doctor ordered. "We're not black metal, just real heavy metal" says the bio. and that's just what you get - Pure Molten HEAVY Metal.

LEGION are Gary Tocco (vocals), Eric Baestlein and Hugh Yerburch (guitars), Vince Augustine (bass) and John Rapp (drums) and the wall of sound that these guys from New York produce on "Nice Guys Finish Last" is so intense it's frightening. Totally brilliant.

The 'B' side - "Used To Be Blind" - is a little less subtle but just as lethal and concludes with some great soloing.

Guaranteed to make your ears bleed, the single can be yours by sending 2 dollars to:- LEGION C/O Gary Tocco, 14 Prospect Ave., Albany, NY 12205, USA and is worth every penny.

BERNARD DOE

## SEVENTH SON

Metal To The Moon/Sound And Fury  
(Rising Son Records)

These Yorkshire metallists were featured in our very first issue just after the release of their debut single "Man In The Street"/"Immortal Hours". Well not a lot has been heard of the band since then but after a couple of line-up changes SEVENTH SON are back with this their follow-up double 'A' sided

single. Predictably "Metal To The Moon" contains the N.A.S.A. like countdown before launching into a medium-fast paced rocker, while "Sound And Fury" is a little more catchier and not so obviously SAXON sounding. Good production too from Colin Slade.

Personally I'd like to see the band be a little bit more original in their overall sound with their next release as I don't really think there's room in the world for another SAXON. What happened to Biff and Co anyway?

BERNARD DOE

## SIREN

Terrible Swift Sword/Metro-Mercenary  
(Siren)

Mentioned briefly in MF8's singles section due to the post office managing to demolish the review copy, SIREN have been kind enough to send a replacement for a decent review.

"Terrible Swift Sword" does rely on a heavy JUDAS PRIEST influence. The production lets the songs strength lie down and die. A story all about the American Civil War, SIREN make the best of it and it's probably a much better song in a live situation.

"Metro-Mercenary" is definitely more to my taste being a bit less plodding with guitarist Rob Phillips playing his heart out. I like the middle section of this track a lot, the guitar has a nice'n'dirty edge to it. Play more stuff in this vein and you'll be OK. SIREN Music Publishing, 2111 Ramble Wood Ln., Brandon, Fla 33511, USA.

DAVE REYNOLDS

## MAINEEAXE

Gimme Your Love 12" EP  
(Powerstation-OHM 10T)

"Gimme Your Love" is the obvious choice of a single from the album (see review) and deserves to be a hit.

On the 'b' side we have two non-album tracks - "Lady Of The Night" and "Call Of The Wild". "Lady..." is a strong mid-tempo rocker but lacks the sparkle of the 'a' side with its weak chorus, while the latter being a much faster-paced affair.

BERNARD DOE



# DEMO-LITION

## SINFUL

SINFUL hails from the Bronx - well at least guitarist Jim Ambrose does. Formed in the latter part of 1983 the bands line-up on the tape consists of: Dana Albert (lead vocals), Jim Ambrose (guitar/backing vocals), Al Garay (keyboards) and Nelson Onofre (drums). Jim Ambrose used to be in THOR's band in fact he plays on the whole of the second THOR album and is quoted only as a guest musician. Remaining intact from the demo SINFUL's line-up now boasts a new bass player Nars Lopez, but the band have since lost drummer Nelson Onofre.

Now the 4-track demo is really something special and can best be described as a cross between ANGEL and death metal. Dana Albert possesses a voice in the classic rock mode, great melodic sense, a four octave range and that touch of class which puts him a cut above the rest. Out of the four tracks on the demo it is impossible to choose which one is the best as they are all classically original. "Burn Your Eyes" is fast and heavy, whilst "Midnight Sun" causes a new term in heavy metal to be made - Dave Constable calls this "Keyboards Death"! The actual structure of the song is based around a more established heavy metal whilst keyboardist Al Garay's growling synth work cuts a GUIFFRIA type sound. In fact Al could well be up there among the top keyboard players in rock. The contrast of the numbers conflicting styles has to be heard to be believed. "Teenage Overdose" follows and I think Frank Dimino forgot to mention SINFUL as one of his projects in his interview. This track sounds so much like ANGEL it's unbelievable. Everything from the Barry Brandt drum sound to the Meaddows/Guiffria fusion, yep it's all here on one commercial ditty. "Wasted Youth" closes the demo in fine 'Death Keyboard' style. Possibly the demo's finest cut.

A mini-LP is expected soon and all I can say is watch it sell. As far as originality goes SINFUL have all the points.

For more info write to: SINFUL C/O Jim Ambrose, 32-54 Cambridge Avenue, Bronx, NY 10463, USA.

KELV HELLRAZER

## GRAN TORINO



This lot hail from sunny Liverpool. They follow the current trend of UK band influenced by US rock. SHY are at the top of this league and no one can touch them (although let's not forget VIRGINIA WOLF whose 1984 demo is nothing short of a killer). Now we have GRAN TORINO whose line up includes: Stuart Fox (vocals), Lol Gothrie (guitars), Steve Perry (bass and vocals) and Brian Dixon (drums). This demo was produced by Mick (RAGE/NUTZ) Davenport in December 1984. Now I think I must have a hundredth generation copy of the tape because the quality of this demo is poor. But what I do hear I like - two tracks of sheer class in the JOURNEY/GUIFFRIA type mould. "Take My Heart" is very much in the JOURNEY league, Stuart Fox doing his best Steve Perry impressions - they even have a bass player named Steve Perry (surely some mistake). This little ditty is very ballad like but it builds up quite a bit. "Out Of The Fire" is much heavier. When guitarist Lol Guthrie is unleashed on the solo just watch him burn up those frets. I think he's definately challenging SHY's Steve Harris for being a fretboard hero. Now, how about some live gigs boys? After seeing XS who were good on demo, but duff live I wanna see GRAN TORINO. The band are recording a new demo with Mr Davenport again about now. I look forward to hearing it.

The old demo can be yours by sending £1.50 to:- GRAN TORINO, 3 Prescott Road, Fairfield, Liverpool 7, ENGLAND.

KELV HELLRAZER



Pic R.Dante



## BATTLE BRAT

"These pretty faces can rock down the house" says the press release. Really? I thought it was only music that could do that! I'm not one to usually concentrate too much on image in reviews but I can't help wonder what comes first in B.B.'s priority rating, music or image.

Looking at the photo's, these guys seem to be appealing to the pre-pube '16' reader who got over her MOTLEY CRUE infatuation and now likes to drool over less nastier looking characters. Well so far so good, but will Suzy prefer the pantie wetting sleaze of the Vince apex aural excited 'Looks that Kill' et al or BATTLE BRAT's two track demo?

BATTLE BRAT, from New York are Jimmi Kane (vocals), Billy The Kid (guitars), Matt Aghetti (drums) and Rob Dexter (bass) and are, I think, currently working on their debut album.

Production-wise they have no worries and the musicianship is above average but the actual songs just don't grab me the way, say fellow New Yorkers BLACKLACE or CITIES material does. Of the two numbers submitted (which may or may not have been released as a single by now) I like the up-tempo "Henchman" the best, rather than the less raunchy "Tough(Too Bad)". If this band can concentrate more on the music's construction and less on trying to ape PIPER or STRIKER (remember them?) in the pretty boy stakes then they could really mean something. I look forward to hearing the album.

Contact:- B.B.PRODUCTIONS, Carmine Aghetti, 60 Knoll St., Lindenhurst, New York, 11757, USA.

DAVE REYNOLDS

## SWEET REVENGE

SWEET REVENGE are P.K.Piero (lead vocals), Moff (lead guitar/vocals), Chris Eagle (rhythm guitar), Sean South (bass) and Barry Kade (drums).

This London based band were formed in April 1984 and have been gigging around the London club scene with their brand of heavy rock that owes a lot to the influences of early seventies glam/rock'n'roll genre ala NEW YORK DOLLS.

SWEET REVENGE's demo, "Top Secret" was produced by Pretty Willy of THE GRIP fame. A good production job too. The opening number "Restless Spirits" is a strong rocker with an American feel that's not too dissimilar to AEROSMITH.

The catchy "Highschool Hooker" is very NEW YORK DOLLish with touches of EDDIE AND THE HOT RODS thrown in for good measure.

The final cut "Turned Down" is far less impressive being a slow, boring ballad where the listener will no doubt be encouraged to turn it off!

Despite this not a bad demo although whether SWEET REVENGE will appeal to many of our strong readership of blood thirsty thrash metal bangers is quite doubtful. Still those of you interested can obtain a copy of "Top Secret" by sending £1.00 + SAE (£1.50 Europe, \$2.00 US) to SWEET REVENGE C/O P.K. Piero, 123a Bedwell Crescent, Stevenage, Herts., SG1 1MA, ENGLAND.

BERNARD DOE

## BLACK KNIGHT

BLACK KNIGHT are an LA band whose line-up features: Charles Morrill (lead guitar/vocals) David Morrill (bass/vocals) and Mickey Scott (drums). The first impression you get of a band is from their press kit, this is of course before you hear them. BLACK KNIGHT's press kit was very well put together indeed, it includes actual colour pictures of the band in the bio ie coloured photocopies as well as 3 colour separate photographs. This press kit should impress record companies?

Pic Lowell Katz



Onto the demo which starts off with "Fight Back" which has a slow/doomy intro with a slow verse a la SABS, but a fast chorus. Charles Morrill's screams remind me a lot of Rob Halford. "Lovin' You" is fast and heavy and very PRIEST like with a commercial edge. The last track "Here's My Hand" is an absolute waste of time and considering the band have lots of other stronger material it seems stupid to use this cut. Anyway the band have a strong image so deals should be imminent. Contact:- BLACK KNIGHT C/O Sosa Concert Productions, P.O.Box 4486, Downey, CA 90242, USA.

KELV HELLRAZER

## THE DEHUMANIZERS

How can you go wrong if you cite two of Seattle's best bands, OVERLORD and TKO as influences? THE DEHUMANIZERS though are really weird, sounding like the sort of band you hear over the hi-fi system at any branch of The Record And Tape Exchange on a Sunday afternoons record buying blitz in London.

"Save The World" is just computer-speak and "Big Storm" verges on pop/new wave turf but "Shadow Man" (All about Rob Weber???) is a good track with some adept guitar playing whilst "Way Of Z", despite its funny intro (more weird noises) is almost related to hard rock too.

If THE DEHUMANIZERS, who sing all about nuclear war and what it will do to us, can make it with this stuff I'll be the first to congratulate 'em ('Them' being: The Ultimate-bass, Duppie-vocals, Infra Ed-guitar and Cid Berry-drums). The weirdest thing of all however is that they like LED ZEP, AEROSMITH, TKO, RAVEN, WRATHCHILD, KISS, THE DOORS, OVERLORD, CULPRIT, IRON MAIDEN and THE RAMONES yet come out with something that resembles neither one or the other.

The demo costs 4 dollars from 2006 35th Ave W, Seattle WA, 98199, USA

DAVE REYNOLDS



## YOUNG THUNDER

Hailing from the Big Apple, this band had only played a few gigs before being spotted by Max Norman (VENDETTA producer) who seemed to think they were the best young band he'd seen in a long while, so the story goes. Then he put off his trip back home to the West Coast for a week so he could get the band into the studio and produce a few tracks. This he did by putting them into Bearsville and laying down five tracks in five days - three of which I have been given to review - and he hopes to go back and finish the songs later this year and maybe do an album with them.



Well that's all the info I was given, now onto the important thing - the music. Well on first impressions I was very disappointed, they sounded lame and tired, but on subsequent hearings, I have to say I was impressed, with the songs growing on me so to speak.

"Some Kinda Hurricane" is such a song. Despite the poor lyrical content it storms (geddit) along with some nice keyboard and guitar touches added to give it extra zest. The stand out song though has to be "All Night Tonight" which is similar to the stuff Billy Sattilite is doing - a sort of Americanized WHITESNAKE, but with the power and class rather than the false macho stuff Coverdale is doing at the moment. "Memory Of The Singer" the last song is rather mediocre and not worth mentioning so I won't. I suggest you get a copy of this tape now and see what you think, personally I think their future is interesting. Contact: YOUNG THUNDER C/O Worldwide Entertainment, 1619 Broadway, 11th Flr., NY, NEW YORK 10019, USA.

STEVE HAMMONDS

## CORRUPTION

Well I guess this proves we'll just about review anything here at METAL FORCES. It's surely a case of come back HELHAMMER all is forgiven as this has to be the worst demo tape I've ever heard in fact it's so bad I defy the band from ever being able to recreate this total garbage, note for note, again.

CORRUPTION, from Welwyn Garden City in Hertfordshire are Vermin (bass/vocals), Olly Creasey (guitar) and Pervverted Assassin (drums) and all have one thing in common - they can't fuckin' play their instruments.

The demo the band handed to me "The Last Daze of 1984" apparently contains no less than 14 tracks all crammed onto a C15 Computer Cassette! Now whether all these tracks are really on the tape is a bit of a mystery as one track is impossible to determine from another. Anyway for the record the track listing is: "Mindless Noise", "Concentration Slums", "Dead Thing", "Hello N.C.B.", "Song Without Drums", "We Hate Crabs", "Frantic Feedback", "Girls

## CANDLEMASS

Remember NEMESIS? (Debut LP reviewed by the lovely Lena Graaf in the last issue). Well this is the reincarnation so to speak. The name change is due to copyright difficulties and all that shit, but main man Leif Edling informs us that the band are more heavier and harder yet still retain the old NEMESIS epic /mystical style. I don't usually go for all the black metal crap but I do enjoy a good band (yeah even VENOM or SLAYER) no matter what the lyrics are about and I can tell ya that CANDLEMASS are a name worth watching out for.

I actually reviewed the NEMESIS demo last year but it was scrapped after being informed that the LP was due any day, so apologies for being late off the mark.



The new "Witchcraft" demo is absolutely excellent. This is first rate stuff and as heavy as hell with lots of guitar runs, haunting choirs, the whole bit. Why bother reviewing it Dave, tell 'em to order it today! OK, ORDER IT TODAY!

The tracks are "Warchild", "Crystal Ball", "A Sorcerer's Pledge" and the epic "Into The Untathomed".

The CANDLEMASS line-up is: Leif Edling (bass/vocals), Christian Weberyd (guitar), Kiell Swensson (guitar) and Matz Ehstroem (drums). A new demo "Tales Of Creation" is due soon.

Contact: Leif Edling, Hammarby 8, 19436 Upplands, Vasby, SWEDEN.

DAVE REYNOLDS

Without Bras", "Sick Song", "Wet Dreams", "One Second", "Naughty But Nice", "We Hate You Arthur" and "Hippy Grinder".

The band name their influences as HELHAMMER, CELTIC FROST, SODOM and DEATH, which I guess is a good sign for when they've mastered their instruments and with an average age of 16 they've surely got time but in all honesty to produce a demo like this and have the nerve to sell it is purely ripping people off.

Now apparently CORRUPTION have another 4-track demo "Slaughtered By Genocide" available with yet another "Death Warrant" due any day, but if "The Last Daze of 1984" is anything to go by then I've certainly got no desire to hear it. It's not even funny.

If you must hear CORRUPTION and have got money to waste then send £1.00 + SAE (£1.50 Europe and £2.00 or \$3.00 rest of the world) to: CORRUPTION C/O Vermin, 4 Moorlands, Welwyn Garden City, Herts., AL7 4DP, ENGLAND.

BERNARD DOE



## SLIM WEAPON

SLIM WEAPON are a Los Angeles based HM band. All of the members currently reside in the San Fernando Valley area. The bands line-up consists of: Karen Andrade (lead and backing vocals), John Andrade (guitar/lead vocals), Steve Andrade (bass) and Cam Daigneault (drums). They could have called the band ANDRADE with the band having a whole family in the line-up barring the drummer. The two track demo which I received featured two different styles of music. Firstly, "LA Leather" which features the delectable Karen Andrade on vocals. I'm sure METAL FORCES resident man in the stained raincoat would like to be on the end of her whip (Hi Dave!). The song itself reminds me of THE RUNAWAYS number "Cherry Bomb". On occasions Karen's vocals slip into Betsy territory, but this is her recording debut and she has plenty of time yet. The second track "Rock'n'Roll Teacher" features Karen's brother John on vocals, he also cuts some fine wah-wah guitar breaks which are right up our Editors street. I prefer "LA Leather" out of the two numbers as the second track is a bit HENDRIX like for me.



Karen only joined the band a year ago and her first date was at the Troubadour supporting W.I.M.P, sorry W.A.S.P. In fact Karen had quite a few good stories about the Lawless one as well as Betsy, which I won't divulge in case I meet Blackie again on the Inter-City 125 on the way up to Birmingham. For further information write to: SLIM WEAPON, Lassen St., Setavelda, CA 91343 USA.

KELV HELLRAZER

## GEISHA



One look at the bands photo had Kely Hellrazer anticipating some mega poser metal in the offering from the demo thrust into his hands by John Kibble - the magpie of heavy metal. But one listen to the tape and those anticipations were dampened and had Kely swiftly pushing the demo in my direction.

Well GEISHA are not exactly my kind of music either but lets get on with the job in question by reviewing this four track demo.

Musically this half Swedish/half Danish band based in Copenhagen sound a cross between VAN HALEN and QUEENSRYCHE although for a band looking for a polished American sound the production of this, final mix, tape is pretty poor.

Although the opening track "Gangland-Sector 21" shows a lot of promise, generally the material is also quite weak especially "Over The Top". I find Robert Roehr's keyboards quite nauseating throughout while Yenz Cheyenne's vocals leave a lot to be desired although to be fair the production doesn't help his cause.

One saving grace for GEISHA is guitarist Pete Blakk who puts in a quite dazzling display with some nice melodic Schenker like soloing and intelligent riffing. While the rhythm section of Jowan Randall (bass) and Mickkey Dee (drums) provide competent performances from mediocre product.

I can't see GEISHA making too much of an impact on the strength of this demo. Hopefully next time the material will show a lot more consistency.

For more info on GEISHA write to John Kibble, Morningstar Management, 11 Sanderstead Hill, South Croydon, Surrey, CR2 0HB, ENGLAND.

BERNARD DOE

## ANTICHRIST

ANTICHRIST, formed in September '84 is Steaming Entrails (vocals), The Necrophiliac (bass), Hacked Giblets (guitar) and Dogs Innards (drums) and are apparently one of the first British Death bands and describe themselves as "a total over the top death noise band - a cross between SODOM and DISCHARGE."

The bands demo contains two tracks, "I Like Killing" and "Werewolf Chaos" which between them contain just about every cliched death/black metal intro tape ever invented (Church bells, thunder/lightning, howling wolves etc).

The actual musical content of each number

is under two minutes per track which is a mixture of punk and thrash metal containing some promising riffing that wouldn't be out of place on a SLAYER album. Though the shrieking/groaning punk vocals will obviously limit the bands overall appeal. An occasional lead solo wouldn't go amiss either. But compared to CORRUPTION, ANTICHRIST deserve to be mega! Look out for the bands debut EP "Night Of The Bloodsuckers".

For more info write to: ANTICHRIST, C/O Jason, 14 Callcott Court, Callcott Road, London NW6 7ED, ENGLAND.

BERNARD DOE



## MORTAL SIN

MORTAL SIN are a Dutch heavy metal band formed on January 1st 1984, and after a couple of line-up changes Mike Snider (vocals), Michel Smits (lead guitar), Marcel Dix (guitar), Peter V. Toren (bass) and Erik Sloof (drums) recorded their "Death On Arrival" demo.

Musically the demo is quite a promising effort. Speed Metal are what the band label themselves as and that is exactly what you get.



Listening to "Hell Of A Mess" and the excellent "Raining Like Hell" comparisons can be made with ANTHRAX although MORTAL SIN are not so technical. Also the vocals from Mike Snider could be a lot better.

"Thousand Devils" may not be quite so powerful but the track does contain some great soloing from Michel Smits who puts in a fine display throughout.

The other number on the demo, "Love Breaches Night" is ruined by an awful intro that portrays Nancy Reagan answering a phone to find a heavy breather on the end of the line. Nancy cries "Is that you Ronald - You sex maniac". Quite pathetic.

Musically though, MORTAL SIN have their heads screwed on right and are well worth checking out.

Since the demo was recorded bassist Peter V. Toren has been replaced by Paul Baars.

A copy of "Death On Arrival" can be purchased by sending £2.00 cash to: MORTAL SIN, c/o Paul Baars, Grenadadreef 1d, 3563 HE Utrecht, HOLLAND.

BERNARD DOE

## ATTILA

ATTILA are one of the acts featured on Mausoleum's recently issued "American Metal Prisoners", which, if I'm not mistaken was compiled by Joel Peskin. Well ATTILA's inclusion comes as no surprise because the first track "Strike To Kill" reminds me of a much much heavier CINTRON (who Joel manages). The song rides along on a crunchy riff aiding the jagged edge of vocalist/bassist Vincent Paul and Drummer A.T. Soldier's backbone. Vocalist/lead guitarist John De Leon has a good, clear but gruff voice and this suits ATTILA's style.

More up-tempo is "Defcon 1-Thermonuclear

## BRIAR

A youngish outfit from the Birmingham area and judging from reports they have been together for a few years now. In that time they have already had a single out which caused them to get a lot of press and radio coverage as well as an appearance on the BBC's 'Oxford Road Show'.

Their latest four song demo is great in parts, but other bits are dodgy. The opener "Two Hearts" is a good solid meat and pie rocker with a chorus not to dissimilar to the U2 track of the same name. But disregarding that a powerful song and a good start to the tape. Next up is "Freedom", a song on which the vocalist sounds like Geddy Lee for some random reason. The song is a sort of mixture of UFO and WHITESNAKE. But I'm afraid it failed to ignite the Hammonds' metal instincts and in fact left me very cold. "Send Me A cure" is a real gem of a song, a pearl amongst the swine. It is full of melody changes, never boring and it kept me rivited to my headphones. The song features some inspired guitar work and great singing. BRIAR certainly have potential to become good but seem to falter at various stages, like quite a few bands I could mention, who have three or four good songs with the rest being boringly average.



Last song on the demo is "Push It To The Limit" which didn't live up to its title, like "Freedom" it was a bit banal. But two out of four a'int bad and also again I must mention the quality of the production which was up to a very high standard. It must be my lucky week!

For more information write to: BRIAR, 35 Winnington Road, Ward End, Birmingham, B82QH, ENGLAND.

STEVE HAMMONDS

Warriors", a nice rough edged headbanger in the Armored Saint mould. Finally "Interceptor" (one of the tracks on the compilation LP) does tend to rip-off "Defcon" riff-wise but isn't too bad an effort in its own right.

ATTILA have plans to put out an indie release and then perhaps move to Los Angeles, although I don't think the latter's a very good idea somehow.

Write to: ATTILA, 703 Densfield Rd, West Babylon, New York, 11704, USA.

DAVE REYNOLDS



## RUBY SLIPPERS

RUBY SLIPPERS is Nigel Itson's new troupe. Nigel Itson used to be in LONDON who once featured Nikki Sixx. RUBY SLIPPERS are, left to right, Keith Varady (guitar), Michael Arden (vocals), Peter Kalz (keyboards), Nigel Itson (drums) and Jimmy James (bass). They describe themselves as a 'Los Angeles Glitter Band!' I am certainly not going to argue with that. The four track demo is excellently produced and show that RUBY SLIPPERS are a force to be reckoned with. A record deal should be no trouble for this band. The demo starts with, "Coast To Coast" - a classy piece of glam rock if ever I heard it. The keyboard sound is very similar to Mike (LEGS) Prince. "Mon Cheri" proves that the SLIPPER's have a killer axe hero in the form of Keith Varady. This guy puts Mike Monroe in the shade image wise. "Sweet Irene" is a semi-ballad with a hint of class that makes this band special. The last track on this demo is hilarious - it's a cover version of THE ARCHIES "Sugar Sugar" and what a version it is as well. With its fast riffing verse it is impossible to tell that it's not a RUBY SLIPPERS number - it's only the chorus which gives it away.



I can only see RUBY SLIPPERS making it massive. They are far more commercial than CURE and have the viability to storm up the US charts. Classic Glam Rock! Sign Or Die! Contact:- RUBY SLIPPERS C/O C.Pio, 2302 Carnegie Ln., Apt G., Redondo Beach, CA 90278, USA.

KELV HELLRAZER

## MILLENNIUM

As you may recall MILLENNIUM were reviewed in issue eight of METAL FORCES. Since then they have progressed which in MILLENNIUM's case is good, because they have progressed for the better. The tape is very different from the last effort. It has some great fast tracks, played with great precision and power. Gone are the subtle tracks which made the last tape and in comes a faster more aware sound.

The sound comes from the American side of things where the bands play fast and furious but MILLENNIUM add melodies and play songs of substance without sacrificing all just for speed. The guitar work is good if uninspiring, though the solo's are excellent, clear and precise, this comes to a fore on a song such as "Princess Of Light".

For once the production of the tape does justice to the band, they have Steve Dagget to thank for that, it has turned what could have been five very superficial songs into ones worth listening to, and for me on a personal note a pleasure to hear something well produced for a change.

## HELL

"Hell's ferocious onslaught leaves no witness unscathed, venomous spitting guitars slice mercilessly into defenceless flesh. Trust not the crucifix to stay the bass's brutal battering nor prayer to hold relentless pounding drums. Demonic vocals rip into ears with vicious lyrics pulverising brains already dazed by a myriad of synthesised sound."



HELL are Dave Halliday (guitar/vocals), Kev Bower (guitar/vocals/synthesizer), Tony Speakman (bass/vocals) and Tim Bowler (drums) and prove that Black Metal in the UK doesn't start and finish with VENOM.

This four-piece from Derbyshire released a promising debut double 'A' sided single back in 1983 on their own Deadly Weapon Records. "Save Us From Those Who Would Save Us" is a powerful deliverance of Satanic Metal, that's more in the FATE mould than SLAYER with good vocals - a rare occurrence with a majority of Black Metal bands.

The other number, the instrumental "Death Squad" could almost be an entirely different band sounding like MAIDEN with keyboards!

However, by all accounts HELL's direction of late seems more in the satanical vein and the band have just recorded a new demo.

Look out for more HELL in METAL FORCES soon.

Contact HELL c/o Dave Halliday, 43 South Street, Riddings, Derbyshire DE55 4EJ, ENGLAND.

BERNARD DOE

Change in direction I said at the beginning, because recalling the last tape it was on a more melodic rock base line which pushed them more in the TERRAPLANE market. The songs that mark this change, are the previously mentioned "Princess Of Light", "When Midnight Calls" and "Dance Of The Dragonfly" because of the sheer brutal energy they expound. As for the rest; "Run To The West" and "We Don't Trust" are also pleasing to my ears. I will put my neck out and say this tape will make a good impression on various companies but it will be the tape after, music wise, that counts. A tip for the top pop pickers!

For more info write to:- MILLENNIUM, 14 Chillingham Court, High Grange, Billingham, Cleveland, ENGLAND.

STEVE HAMMONDS

Any bands wishing to be included in DEMO-LITION should send tape, photo and full band biography to: METAL FORCES, Demo-lition, 17 Livingstone Link, Chells, Stevenage, Herts., SG2 OEP, ENGLAND.



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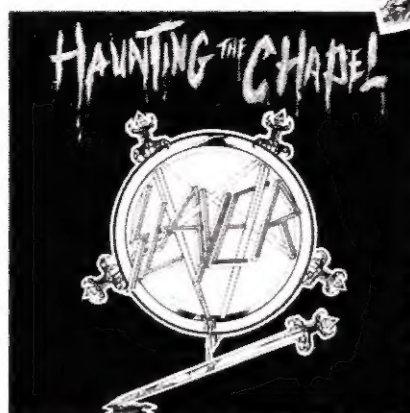
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# TYSONDOG

BERNARD DOE Talks To KEVIN WYNN



## BITE BACK

With so many British metal bands searching for that sickly US polished heavy rock sound TYSONDOG are one of the few bands sticking to their roots and producing metal in a tradition that the UK was once respected for.

Hailing from the North-East of England, the band were formed in early 1982 as a four-piece and went into the studio for the first time in July 1983 to record a track entitled "Eat The Rich" with rhythm guitarist Allan Hunter on vocals.

Soon after the recording the band recruited a lead vocalist by the name of Clutch and returned to the studio to record another track "Dead Meat". Both tracks were later released as the bands debut single on Neat Records with "Eat The Rich", the 'A' side retaining Allan's lead vocals due to an accident with the master tape which prevented Clutch's vocals being dubbed on.

In November '83 drummer Peter Reeve left the band and was replaced by ex-VENOM roadie Ged Wolf then in late March/early April TYSONDOG recorded their debut album "Beware Of The Dog" with none other than VENOM's Cronos at the production helm, who also provided backing vocals on the track "Demon". But soon after the recording of the album Ged Wolf was kicked out and replaced by Rob Walker.

Now, no doubt many readers will remember Dave Reynolds interview with VENOM in MF6, in which Cronos, as well as describing TYSONDOG as "crap..... a JUDAS PRIEST rip-

off", stated that the only reason he produced the album was as a favour to Ged Wolf whose the brother of VENOM's manager Eric Cook and accused the band of just using Ged to get him to produce the album.

Well as you can imagine those comments didn't go down too well with TYSONDOG as I found out in a recent conversation with the band's bassist Kevin Wynn. "Yeah, Cronos caused a lot of uproar and bad feeling between the two camps, although I'm sure a lot of what he said was the effect of drink. It was Cronos who approached us to produce the album and he got paid for it so it wasn't exactly a favour as he put it.

"We were never using Ged Wolf, in fact when we kicked him out it was at a point when it could have been disastrous to our career.

"Eric Cook was threatening everything. He was gonna sue us, stop us playing festivals and getting Kerrang! reviews but in the end he wasn't powerful enough to do any of those things."

So why did you get rid of Ged Wolf?

"Well when he came along to the audition, he had just bought VENOM's old 15-piece drum kit - you see he was their drum roadie for a couple of years - and he looked the part and was a fairly average drummer. As he was still a young kid we thought he'd come on a bit. But as soon as we got in the studio to record the album his drumming just deteriorated and



it was taking ages for us to get a track down. There's no way to drop in the drums during a backing track, its got to be spot on, and after a few takes of a song the feeling just goes away from it."

So how has Rob Walker fitted in? "We dropped Rob right in at the deep end because within two weeks of him joining us we were gigging, and he learnt 15 songs in a matter of days. He's so much better than Ged."

As with a lot of British metal bands TYSONDOG are bigger on the continent than they are back home, especially in Holland, and were one of the few successes at the recent "Earthquake" festival.

"Holland is brilliant, the audiences are crazy, we get about 8 or 9 encores a night when we play there. The music we're playing seems to be what they're into now. Also since the album was released we've had a great response from America and Canada."

One look at the bands recent photo and it's clear that TYSONDOG have gone for a more metal approach in their image.

"Yeah, in the last image we had the odd studded belt here and there but it was mainly the ripped T-Shirt and dyed pants sort of look. But we thought why go half-way, so now we've gone completely over the top with a W.A.S.P. come PRIEST come IRON MAIDEN look.

But do you really think image is that important? "We didn't when we done the "Beware Of The Dog" album, but when we went over to Holland it really opened our eyes. I mean there were kids walking into the gigs who had on more stage gear than when we went on.

"Anyway when we come back we went into

Dave Woods at Neat and said if you want us to sell lots of records for you and get some good photo's taken then we want money for stage gear."

So has the music progressed with the image? "Yeah, definately. Whereas before it was Paul Burdis (lead guitar) who was writing most of the material, now Allan (Hunter) is getting more involved. Clutch writes all those excellent lyrics."

TYSONDOG recently went into the studio and recorded 5 tracks. Four of the numbers "The Changeling", "Shoot To Kill", "Back To The Bullet" and a re-working of "Hammerhead" from the first album will soon be released by Neat Records on a 12" EP simply entitled "Tysondog". The remaining number "T.W.A.T." which Kevin says is "a black metal piss take", will be released on a Dutch compilation album that also includes VENOM.

Talking of VENOM again have TYSONDOG got any final thoughts on the band? Paul Burdis:- "How can you take any notice of any band with an IQ of a plant?!" Kevin:- "Seriously, the feedback we got from people when we were in Holland was that most people are bored with VENOM. The feeling there was that VENOM and black metal was a thing of the past and now the people were into QUEENSRYCHE and DIO.

"VENOM are stuck in a rut now and I think they will find it difficult to get out of it."

No doubt the conflict will continue.

For TYSONDOG Fan Club information write to: Dog Soldier, 108 Bristol Drive, Battlehill Estate, Wallsend, Tyne & Wear, ENGLAND.

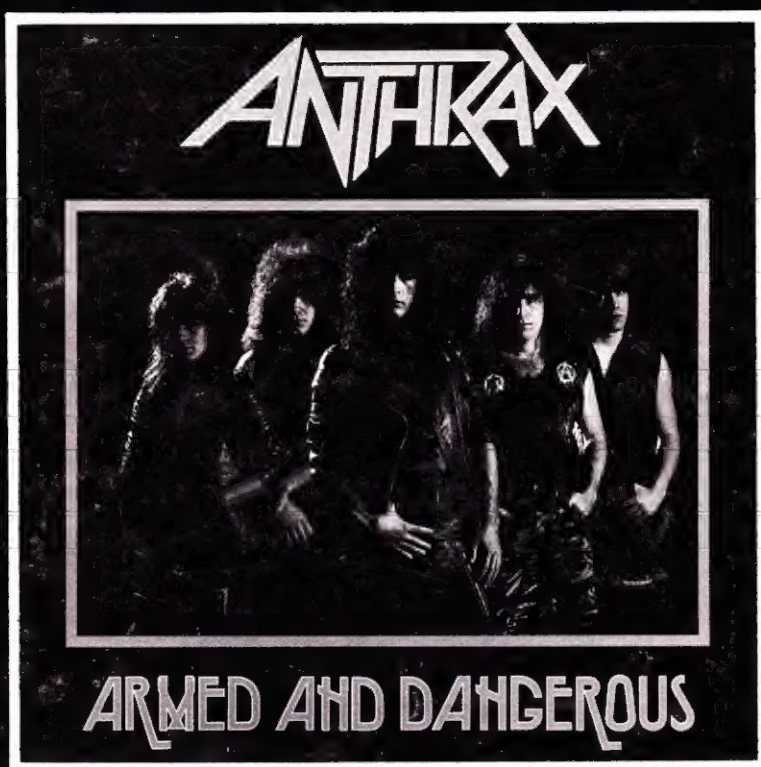




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